The New-York Times.

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THE WAR IN WEST VIRGINIA.

The Late Rebel Raid a Complete Failure.

THE INTENTIONS OF THE ENEMY FOILED.

The Retreat of the Rebels Without Doing Any Damage.

The Baltimore and Ohio Railroad All Safe.

Effects of the Amnesty Proclamation among Rebel Soldiers.

DISPATCH FROM GEN. KELLEY TO GOV. BOREMAN.

CUMBERLAND, Thursday, Jan. 7, 1864.

A dispatch just received from Col. THOBURN, commanding at Petersburgh, informs me that the rebel force threatening him for several days past has retreated toward the Shenandoah Valley. The force was a formidable one, consisting of three brigades—LEE's, WALKER's and ROSSER's, all under the command of Gen. FITZHUGH LEE.

Deserters report that it was the intention of LEE to capture the garrison at Petersburgh, take New Creek and Cumberland, destroy our stores, break the railroad by burning the bridges, &c., &c.

I am happy to inform you that the great raid undertaken by Gen. EARLY, in retaliation for our late movements in this dedartment, has thus far resulted in a complete failure or fizzle. An empty wagon train of Col. THOBURN's, returning from Petersburgh, was captured by a portion of the enemy's forces. With this exception they have not thus far been able to inflict upon us any injury. Many deserters are coming in, and our cavalry are picking up many straggiers.

The railroad is safe and trains are running regularly. The weather is cold and the snow is several inches deep. B. F. KELLEY, Brig.-Gen.

DETAILS OF THE RAID.

CUMBERLAND, Saturday, Jan. 9.

Perhaps by mere accident, rather than through gross negligence, on the part of a rebel brigade commander, we have become possessed of an official document setting forth what was intended to be the original plan of Gen. EARLY's late operations.

I have not now the opportunity to enter into details, but in a general way will state that Gen. EARLY was to cut the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad at Martinsburg, and by a combination of movements, attempt the capture of such Union forces as were between Martinsburg and New-Creek. At the latter place, Gen. EARLY, having heard that we were concentrating troops at Martinsburg, and having also been reliably informed that Gen. AVERILL was there with a strong cavalry force, determined, after a consultation with several rebel commanders, to alter his plan—he coming to the conclusion that he could not attack Martinsburg with any likelihood of success, and that he could not now retreat without bringing censure on himself for having advanced on so hazardous an enterprise, without also having at least made an effort to secure his object or injure us in some way. He, therefore, dispatched Gens. FITZHUGH LEE and ROSSER to attempt the capture of the garrison at Petersburg, Hardy County. How this failed, the reader already knows.

ROSSER was to try and get into Cumberland and capture or destroy the stores here.

Both LEE and ROSSER failed, because EARLY could not get to them the promised reinforcements, with artillery, &c. This is what the official rebel document says in regard to the late movements and the different plans adopted.

We have also become possessed of very important information in regard to the strength and position of the rebel commands and the avowed intentions of several rebel officers high in position.

A report is in circulation relative to the capture of the garrison at Jonesville, West Virginia, leaving the inference that the commander of the Department of West Virginia is responsible for our loss at that place. Such is not the fact. The command thus captured was within the limits of Gen. FOSTER's department.

The weather continues very cold here, and the sleighing is good.

We are in daily receipt of favorable evidences in regard to the effect of the amnesty proclamation among the rebel soldiers. Deserters from almost all the rebel commands enter our lines bringing us information of sometimes the highest importance. They take the oath of allegiance, and then, instead of becoming a burthen to the Government, are usefully employed to the public benefit. Every opportunity is afforded them to avoid the chances of capture by rebel raiders.

The question is asked why did not Gen. KELLEY follow up the rebels when they commenced to retreat? This question can briefly and satisfactorily be answered: The very elements that interfered with the rebel movements also retarded our own, and prevented us from inflicting that injury on the raiders that we otherwise could have done. The effort was made to follow them up, and our cavalry did attack the rear of one or two of the enemy's columns, picking up stragglers and the like, but on a careful consideration of the whole facts of the case it was found that a general movement at that time would have been hazardous in the extreme, from uncontrollable physical causes, besides entailing fatal effects to a large number of men and horses from the severe state of the weather. Besides, what would have been gained? Even conceding the fact that our plans would have been entirely successful, the result attained would not have been anywhere near an equivalent for the losses, from the effect of the weather and other causes, that we should have necessarily been compelled to sustain. Gen. FITZHUGH LEE at one time believed his object to have been secured effectually, and gave out that he had captured the garrison at Petersburg, and that he would certainly get into Cumberland or New Greek on the following day.

ACCOUNTS FROM WASHINGTON.

WASHINGTON, Saturday, Jan. 9—9:30 P. M.

Since the receipt of the newspaper telegram early this morning, announcing the appearance of FITZ HUGH LEE and IMBODEN with a rebel force, in three columns, threatening Petersburgh and Cumberland, the *Star* says a dispatch has reached headquarters here, dirict from Gen. KELLY, stating that the rebels have retreated from these vicinities.

SECOND DISPATCH.

WASHINGTON, Saturday, Jan. 9.

A letter from London County, Virginia, says that daring robberies are being everywhere committed and money extorted from the inhabitants to save their dwellings from conflagration.

There is a greater state of alarm prevailing than has before existed during the war.

The depredations are represented to be committed by Southern deserters. There being no protection afforded them, the citizens are compelled to submit.

It was stated more than a week ago that the rebels were moving toward Winchester, with an intention probably of proceeding beyond that town.

This report is now verified.

The Government, it is merely necessary to say, has not been unmindful of this important fact, and has taken measures accordingly.

ACCOUNTS FROM BALTIMORE.

BALTIMORE, Md., Saturday, Jan. 9.

Reliable information from Cumberland, Md., this morning says there are no rebels in the vicinity of Cumberland, Md.

They have retreated from the vicinity of Petersburgh, and gone in the direction of Staunton.

All is quiet along the whole line of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, and trains are running regularly.

The Raid Upon New-Creek.

From the Wheeling Intelligencer of Jan. 6.

The train of cars which left this city on Saturday morning only went as far as Piedmont, where it was ordered to return to this city, which it did, reaching here yesterday morning. The passengers report that a rebel force of about three thousand cavalry, supposed to be commanded by IMBODEN, was marching in the direction of New-Creek, and there was great activity among our troops along the road. On Sunday afternoon a force of guerrillas fell upon a Government train between New-Creek and Petersburgh, and captured a large number of horses and wagons. One of the teamsters, a negro, seeing the guard overpowered, cut his mules loose from the wagon, mounted the saddle mule, and made his way safely to New-Creek, followed by the balance of the animals composing his team. Every important point along the road likely to be attacked was being strengthened by Gen. KELLEY, and a great excitement prevailed among the people. All the rolling stock of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Company in and about Cumberland and New-Creek and other points is now being moved in this direction. At New-Creek and Piedmont on Monday night, the people, for reasons known to the military authorities, were forbidden to exhibit lights. The track of the railroad had not been injured up to Monday night, as the train from Baltimore met the train of which we have been speaking at Piedmont, and followed it into this city.

It was feared that Col. THOBURN's command at Petersburgh had been attacked by the rebels, but nothing reliable was known.

These rumors, in connection with the fact that a large rebel force is in front of Gen. AVERILL, near Martinsburgh, make things look very threatening along the road, and although the rebel raid may not be so extensive as reported, there is sufficient cause for the alarm and extraordinary activity which seems to prevail among our troops.

P. S.—1 A. M.—The trains on the Baltimore road, east and west, are reported all right, and they will leave on their regular time to-day. The indications from New-Creek are, that the rebels are falling back, and that the demonstration made on that point was not by a very large force. It is surmised that the threat against New Creek may be a feint intended to cover a strike at some other part of the road. No word has been received from Col. THOBURN's command up to this writing. The rebels are reported in possession of Burlington, a road crossing eleven miles from New-Creek toward Petersburgh. We are expecting still further advices. If received before going to press, they will be found under the telegraphic head.

FROM CHATTANOOGA.

Gen. Thomas Assessing Rebel Sympathizers.

CINCINNATI, Saturday, Jan. 9.

The snow covered the ground at Chattanooga yesterday.

Gen. THOMAS has issued an order assessing $30,000 on rebel sympathizers living within ten miles of the recent murder of three soldiers near Mulberry, Tenn., the money to be divided between the families of the soldiers killed.

THE REBEL PRIVATEERS.

The Ship Tonquin Burnt by a Confederate Sailing Vessel.

PORELAND, Saturday, Jan. 9.

The ship *Tonquin*, DUPONT, for Havre, was burnt by a Confederate sailing vessel, Oct. 26, in lat. 10° south, lon. 32° west.

SECOND DISPATCH.

BOSTON, Saturday, Jan. 9—P. M.

There is no American ship *Tonquin* and the vessel reported burnt may be the ship *Tarquin*, of Boston, Capt. HOYT, from the coast of Sumatra with a cargo of pepper, bound to Pernambuco for orders.

Pernambuco is in lat. 8° 13' south, long. 35° 5' west.

Kentucky.

MESSAGE OF GOV. BRAMLETTE.

CINCINNATI, Saturday, Jan. 9.

Gov. BRAMLETTE, of Kentucky, sent a message into the Senate yesterday urging the immediate necessity of raising troops for the State defence.

Arrival of the Steamship Bohemian.

PORTLAND, Saturday, Jan. 9.

The steamship *Bohemian*, Captain BORLAND, from Liverpool on Dec. 24 via Londonderry 25th, arrived at this port at 7.30 this morning. Her advices have been anticipated by the *Africa*, at Halifax.

The War Democrats of Ohio.

CINCINNATI, Saturday, Jan. 9.

The War Democrats of Ohio held a meeting at Columbus yesterday. No nominations were made.

Death of Admiral Storer.

BOSTON, Saturday, Jan. 9.

Admiral STORER, of the United States Navy, died yesterday at Portsmouth, N. H.

The New-York Inward Bound.

HALIFAX, Saturday, Jan. 9.

The steamship *New-York*, from Southampton, which put in here short of coals, sailed for New-York at 9 o'clock last night.

Severe Weather at Buffalo.

BUFFALO, Saturday, Jan. 9.

A high wind is blowing here, accompanied by a heavy snow-storm. The thermometer stands at seven degrees above zero.

The weather is nearly as bad as it was last Saturday.

The telegraphic lines are all working

There is no detention on the railroads.

Weather Report.

CINCINNATI, Saturday, Jan. 9, 9:30 A. M.

Weather clear. Wind W. Thermometer 1° above zero.

The Fight in Stono River.

A letter from an officer of the *Marblehead* gives the following account of the severe fighting:

"The rebels had two batteries so placed as to bring a cross-fire upon us. We paid no attention to the most distant battery, but slipping our cable made for the nearest, and getting as near as we could—within about six hundred yards—we went at it in downright earnest. The scene was wild and fearful beyond description. The aim of the enemy was true, and their shot and shell took effect upon our small vessel almost every time. Within fifteen minutes three of our men were killed and six wounded; but the men stood bravely to their guns and fought like heroes, while Capt. MEADE cheered them in a voice of inspiration. Too much praise cannot be bestowed upon the gallantry of the crew; and young WINSLOW, an acting-ensign, was conspicuous for his conduct and courage, and received the warm and hearty commendation of the Captain.

We had but four guns to bear upon their twelve. The odds were great, and we were made to feel it so severely that our Captain looked anxiously for aid from the *Pawnee*. She came at last, and as she fired the first enfilading shot the enemy abandoned their guns and fled with precipitation. One-fifth of the fighting men on deck were killed or wounded—a much greater mortality than on board the *Guerriere* in her contest with the *Constitution*.

Although but few of the men had been in battle before, there was no flinching nor faltering, and whenever addressed by the Captain in words of encouragement, they gave him assurance of their steady courage. The enemy abandoned two eight-inch howitzers, which Capt. MEADE conveyed by a boat expedition away from their lines.

Thirty shots and shells passed through the *Marblehead* during the engagement, making fearful destruction about her hull; and the masts and rigging were much damaged."

AFFAIRS IN TENNESSEE.

A New-Year Greeting from Tennessee—What a Twelvemonth has Changed—Progress of Ideas—The Aspect and the Prospect—Christmas Holidays—Bright Season for Blacks—Closing of Hospitals—Sharp Weather.

From Our Own Correspondent.

NASHVILLE, Tenn., Friday, Jan. 1, 1864.

The present New-Year in Nashville deserves special honor and grateful acknowledgment. All things in and around the city for many miles away, with the hopes, prospects, feelings of those who love the grand old Union, are happily changed within a year. Sojourners not only, but citizens, true of heart, exult to-day in the sense of security to our blessed institutions, and which they deeply believe will be abiding. They look into the future, and see the portentous clouds, that for so many months lowered over the land, threatening to burst with desolating fury far and wide, manifestly breaking away and letting the glad sunshine through, God's harbinger of the calm and the peace and the joy which are surely soon to cheer us. A New-Year's Day with such healing in its beams, should be a very lustrous one indeed.

A twelvemonth ago ROSECRANS still had his headquarters here. For some days previously his army had begun to move slowly toward the South—fighting its way along—the rebel pickets confronting our own, and a battle to decide the possession of Nashville, and of Middle and Western Tennessee as well, liable at any moment to occur. The issue of that battle, when it should come, was felt to involve stupendous consequences. The rebel-favorers hoped and prayed for the success of their arms, while they trembled for the result. All staunch Union souls shared the grim uncertainty. The country all around was agitated by war's alarums. A Union man or party chancing to stray a few miles beyond the city on either side, was liable to be fired upon or captured by guerrilla ruffians. The Cumberland from Nashville to its junction with the Ohio, was a gauntlet of of fire and peril which no craft short of a gunboat was brave enough to run. The banks of the Mississippi bristled with hostile cannon, and commerce was sighing for a safe transit—a very remote realization, seemingly—to the Gulf. The railroad between Louisville and Nashville was frequently broken up, or constantly liable to be, rendering transportation, whether of human or other freight, a rather risky business. In short, Nashville may be said to have been, one year ago, in jeopardy every hour, and everything in and about it wore the look of a place whose very tenure was doubtful and its fate wrapped in mystery that none might pierce.

ROSECRANS' great victory at Stone River, on the very opening of the year, wrought a wondrous change. The line of Tennessee *in the Union* was moved by that splendid stroke to Chattanooga, to remain there till it should be pushed still farther forward and embrace East Tennessee in its restoring girdle. The victories of GRANT and BANKS made the Mississippi free, and restored safe communication by this great highway between Nashville and New-Orleans. Guerrilla raids and depredations became less and less frequent and fierce, owing to the energy with which these bandits were pursued, and the sharp punishment they were almost certain to receive. An obstruction on the Louisville and Nashville Railroad, from this source, is now a very rare event. Fleets of boats are constantly coming up and passing down the Cumberland, without molestation. Farmers and producers, from the country for a score of miles around Nashville, come to the city to traffic, and return home, with perfect immunity from harm.

The feeling, the certainty that Nashville is anchored to the Union, and can never glide, if she would, from beneath the protecting and *saving* Stars and Stripes, is producing its appropriate results. Prominent among them is abhorrence of a rebellion which, without gaining a solitary beneficial end, or any end it proposed to gain, has sacrificed myriads of lives and covered the land with mourning. The sober second thought has come or is coming to the people here. They see that the rebellion has been evil and only evil; that their only hope and safety is the Union. Numbers of the misguided are longing to have its protecting arms around them again as in the good old prosperous times. Many of the recently captured prisoners are anxious to take the oath. Many show unmistakable signs of a desire to fraternize with the brave soldiers whom, a twelvemonth ago, they flouted and scorned. These are all favorable symptoms of returning sanity and sense.

More than all, discussions of the evils of Slavery, and its incompatibility with a permanent peace and a true prosperity, is an everyday occurrence with those who a brief time ago would as soon have questioned their own existence as the immovable stability of the "divinely given institution." In truth, as good old Galileo averred, "the earth *does* move." And its motion for the twelve months past has found signal correspondence here, in the progress of ideas in the direction of Liberty and Union, of Truth and Right. The twelvemonth to come will no doubt witness for these ideas a still more beneficent expansion. Tennessee will have come to herself, and restored fully to the Union, will occupy a higher place than she ever did among her sister stars—for being true to freedom, she will never more prove false to herself. Again then we say that this New-Year, with its suggestive memories, its present promise, and hopes of better things to come, should be a very happy one to Tennessee.

There is more emphasis laid upon the Christmas holidays here than there is at the North. The people regard and treat them more in the spirit of "Merry England" than we are wont to do. Social and festive gatherings, congratulations, music, mirth and merriment, mark the auspicious day. The "inferior race," is specially hilarious and jubilant on the arrival of Christmas, for the interval between this and the New Year is, prescriptively, Sambo's own. No work and all play, or merry-making, while the golden hours glide away. Nothing done for nothing, is his motto. If he consents to work, it is only from a sheer good will or a more solid "consideration." The sable or copper-colored beauties flaunt their finery—and truth to say, Broadway itself can hardly present more elaborately dressed, more not-to-be-outshonely-white-folk specimens of African humanity, than the streets of Nashville. In other respects, these need not shun comparison with those; not in their churches even, which the mass of them attend, and which present an appearance quite as creditable, as well in the apparel as in the average intelligence and decorous deportment of the congregation.

But this is leading me astray from my Christmas holiday topic, on which I shall only add that our "boys" in hospital did not enjoy the luxury of a Christmas dinner, specially provided, as on Thanksgiving Day, for the reason that the extraordinary effort to furnish forth the latter quite exhausted our supplies—so difficult in this far-off region—though the good will remained the same. We envied Louisville a little, whose numerous hospitals were provided with a sumptuous repast worthy of the day. But having ampler means at hand, and a large and rich and loyal city, not war-scathed, as this is, their successful effort to make glad the soldier's heart will be put down to the account, not of superior benevolence, but superior facilities.

Apropos of hospitals. The number here is in course of being rapidly circumscribed. Out of twenty-four, filled full after the fight of Chickamauga, not more than eight or nine will remain open, several being closed up already. The reason for this step is economy. The cost of running one of these huge establishments, with its legion of doctors, nurses, subordinates, &c., is enormous. To close a dozen of these in a city is a vast saving to the Government, as to keep one open unnecessarily, involves a wanton waste of the nation's money. It is hopeful and refreshing to see any honest attempt made anywhere, to economize, amid the vast expenditures that are ceaselessly adding to the startling figures of our debt. The hospitals closed here, through the recovery, transfer, death, discharge, or sending North, of inmates, will stand ready for re-occupancy, should their use be again demanded. This will only be in case of battles at the front, which *may* not take place. The rebel *on may* collapse without forcing further blows. Pray God it may, and that the sea of blood already shed may not be swelled by additional purple rills.

We have another spasm of piercing weather, which rushed upon us suddenly, introduced by gusts and hail and sleet, last evening. This is far the fiercest yet, insinuating its icy clutches into our very bed-rooms, showing water-pail and pitcher covered this morning with an inch-thick robe of ice. This is a great feat for Tennessee. Two reënlisted soldiers, I learn, on their way home, on leave, were found to-day frozen to death. God pity the many homeless Unionists among us and through the region, whose distress may force them to wander abroad for bread, saying, "Where is it?" and who sigh for a faggot or a blanket to help them against the biting blast! C. V. S.

THE CHESAPEAKE IN COURT AT HALIFAX

The Crown Officers Are of the Opinion that the Ship Should be Delivered to Her Owners.

Judge Stuart Refuses to Entertain the Probability of a Rebel Application for the Vessel.

HALIFAX, N. S., Saturday, Jan. 9.

ADMIRALTY COURT—Hon. Judge STUART, C.R., presiding. Hon. J. W. JOHNSTON, Advocate-general for the Crown. W. A. D. MORSE, Esq., counsel for the owners of the *Chesapeake*; J. W. RITCHIE, Esq., counsel for the Confederates.

In opening the *Chesapeake* case, the Judge stated that the cause was entertained upon the ground that the seizure of the vessel was a piratical act. His opinion was that the vessel should be given up to her owners.

Mr. RITCHIE asked the Judge to contemplate the probability of an application of the Confederates for her.

His Honor declared he would not entertain anything of the kind.

Mr. RITCHIE then gave his interpretation of the law upon the validity of the seizure, contending that any citizen of the Southern Confederacy, with or without a commission, has an absolute right to seize any vessel belonging the Federals, and it would be a lawful prize.

The Advocate-General said that he felt some difficulty in bringing the case into this Court, as there was a pretense of her being a lawful prize; but there was *prima facie* evidence that the capture was piracy. His opinion was that the vessel should be delivered over to her owners. Adjourned to the 13th inst.

The Arrests.

From the Halifax Citizen, Dec. 31.

The questions, "was the capture of this vessel piracy?" and "was the killing of her second engineer murder?" will now in a short time be decided by the lawyers and Judges of New-Brunswick, in a way to set all newspaper controversy on the subject at rest. Two of BRAINE's companions, COLLINS and MCKINNEY, the former calling himself Lieut. COLLINS, were arrested on Sunday night last, in the house of Mr. WADE, the father of the now celebrated GEO. WADE, near Loch Lomond, a few miles from St. John. They were taken under a warrant issued under the great seal of the Province, on a requisition of the American Consul at St. John, that they be arrested and delivered over to the United State authorities, under the Extradition treaty. On Monday they underwent a brief preliminary examination at the Police Court. The prosecution is being conducted by A. R. WETMORE, Esq. Hon. J. H. GRAY announced that he appeared on behalf of the Confederate States to defend the prisoners, in which he is assisted by C. W. WELDEN, Esq. The further hearing of the case was postponed until Monday next, the 4th of January, to enable the counsel for the prisoners to get up the evidence for the defence.

The warrant under which these men were arrested included the name of BRAINE and ten others. As soon as it was issued, BRAINE disappeared from St. John, and it was rumored that he was coming to Halifax. On Tuesday, information was given to the authorities here that he was coming by the train from Truro, and arrangements were immediately made to have him arrested on his arrival. A police force, backed by a company of military to prevent the possibility of a rescue, surrounded the train on its arrival at Richmond, but the fugitive was not to be found. Nothing else could have been expected. None but the most obtuse and thick-headed "Charlie" that ever wore a blue coat, could have expected to find him there, when there are half a dozen telegraph stations on the line between Truro and Halifax, by which he might receive warning of the reception that awaited him on his arrival.

It was said that BRAINE was coming to Halifax to surrender himself to the authorities. In the hands of our legal officials here, he could rely on having his case fairly and impartially considered; and if his position is really that which his friends claim it to be, he would have nothing to fear. If in the eye of the law, he had a legal right to do all that he did, his acquittal would be certain; and the short period of imprisonment, to which he might have to submit, would be but a trifling inconvenience to place against the substantial advantages that an acquittal after a full and impartial legal investigation would bring to him and his companions. That he has not so surrendered himself, we consider a sufficient proof that he is conscious of the dangerous position in which he stands.

His arrest, however, is not now essential to a legal investigation. The trial of the two men at St. John will bring out all the facts and the law of the case, and put an end to newspaper speculations and opinions as to the nature of the transaction. On the result of this trial, too, will depend the important mercantile question as to the disposal of the ship and cargo. Whatever the result may be, we have only one wish to express in the matter—let there be no more attempts by British subjects to rescue parties accused of crime from a fair trial by British laws—let the case be decided by law, upon its own merits, and let the men accused reap the reward of their enterprise or the penalty of their crime, as the law may decide upon the character of the transaction in which they have been engaged.

The War in the Indian Territory—The Loyal Leader, Col. Phillips.

From the Kansas City Journal of Commerce.

The late repulse of the combined forces of STANDWAITE and QUANTRELL, at Barren Fork, in the Indian country, by Capt. SPILLMAN, at the head of a portion of Col. WM. A. PHILLIPS' forces, recalls our attention to the position and achievements of the latter worthy officer. For nearly two years, he has been busily at work in the Indian country—sometimes in command of a District, now doing the duty of a Brigade Commander, again at the head of his regiment in battle, and still again acting as a diplomatic agent with the Indians, inducing them to abandon the rebel cause, abolish Slavery and reunite themselves with the United States Government. In all these capacities, he has proved himself the brave, able and incorruptible man whom his friends in Kansas have so long delighted to honor. For the reclamation of the Indian Territory, the country is more indebted to him, ten times over, than to any other man.

And yet so quietly and unostentatiously has he labored, so little has he sought personal ends, so entirely has he devoted himself to his duties, that his name has rarely found its way into the newspapers, and his best friends, even, have known but little of his doings. The personal and political jealousy, too, of some of his superiors in rank, but inferiors in ability, moral worth and every element of a noble manhood, has prevented his services from receiving that official recognition which was justly their due.

Not long ago, on returning to the field, after a dangerous illness, he was turned over to an outpost, from which all the white troops had been ordered off, the cavalry literally starved out—a few hundred Indians were given him, a howitzer battery with half the officers taken away, a battery of heavy 12-pounders requiring ten horses to each gun, and not a horse or gunner with it, mules all dead, the command scattered, two or three thousand refugees in a starving condition, with hundreds of cases of horrid smallpox, and the last ounce of flour issued on the day he arrived. Such was the command given to him.

He was expected to make a failure, and a man of less ability and energy would have failed. But he seems to have been able, in the face of such formidable difficulties and discouragements, to speedily get things into shape so as to assume the offensive and strike QUANTRELL and his party a most staggering blow.

There is no discount on WM. A. PHILLIPS—he is a man, an honest, able, straightforward man—and we are glad that we are in a position to pay him this spontaneous and unsolicited, but truthful and just tribute.

The Guerrilla, Forrest.

HIS MOVEMENTS IN TENNESSEE.

Correspondence of the St. Louis Republican.

MEMPHIS, Thursday, Dec. 31, 1863.

After an expedition of three weeks' duration in West Tennessee, FORREST has succeeded in crossing the Tallahatchie with his ill-gotten booty. It seems that he was very busy during his stay, and succeeded in getting a large quantity of provisions, horses and mules, besides nearly two thousand recruits, including both volunteers and conscripts.

Exaggerated reports reach us in regard to the quantity of spoils which graced his retreat. One report makes it as high as 400 loaded wagons, 800 beef cattle and 1,000 horses and mules. This is probably considerably beyond the truth. FAULKNER moved down and joined FORREST on the night of the 27th. He crossed Wolf River and the railroad but a few miles from this city. No injury was done to the railroad, and even the telegraph wire was not cut. Guards were placed around the houses of some of the people lest they should give information of their proximity to the Federal authorities. They said it was their intention to proceed South with their supplies as quietly as possible, and did not wish a collision with the Union troops at present. They, however, intimated that they would soon be in a condition to attack the Union troops with a good show of success.

How much truth there was in their assertion, we are unable to say, but appearances would seem to indicate that all the rebel commands in West Tennessee and Northern Mississippi are within supporting distance of each other, and together they have no very insignificant force.

Everything is quiet in this city. Three regiments of Home Guards have been organized and officered. Trade is dull in part, owing to the rainy weather and awful condition of our streets.

Late arrivals from below report all quiet on the river. Guerrillas have not made their appearance for some time.

We have late and interesting news from Arkansas. Except some ill-feeling shown by those who are not friendly to Mr. GANTT, everything is progressing as finely as could be desired. Unless some serious outbreak should occur, a very short time will serve to place our sister State back in the Union.

INTERESTING SOUTHERN NEWS.

FROM NORTH MISSISSIPPI.

We take the following from a letter dated Verona, Miss., Dec. 16:

"Gloomy, cold December is upon us; the campfires blaze from hill and valley, and around the cheerful flame flit the forms of the hardy soldiers. The 'moon has hung out her lanthorn of the night,' and impatient, jaded horses are munching their daily allowance of rations. 'Taps' has been sounded, and as the strains of the bugle ring clear upon the frosty air, the weary cavalrymen wrap themselves in their scanty bedding and lie down 'to sleep, perchance to dream—aye, there's the rub.'

You will observe that we are hibernating in the vicinity of Verona, retiring from the field of our exploits from pure necessity, the jaded condition of our horses rendering such a step indispensable. Our work was not by any means completed, and it was with reluctance on the part of both officers and men that we fell back. It is gratifying to know that the Federals had nothing to do with our retrograde movement. Information of a reliable character has been received here that the Federal cavalryman, Col. HATCH, is dead. He died last Wednesday, of the wound he received at Moscow. Another Colonel, (MEIZNER,) on that interesting occasion, received his mark. A Confederate bullet took off one of his ears.

Orders were issued before we arrived here for brigade commanders to 'give their attention and devote their energies to the recruiting of their men and horses to enable the Major-General to assume offensive operations as soon as possible.' This is the language of the order, and Gen. LEE always means what he says. In conclusion he thanks the troops of his command for their gallantry and good behavior on the late expedition. 'They started,' he says, 'under the most unfavorable circumstances, heavy rains having delayed the expedition and destroyed their subsistence stores; still not a murmur or complaint was heard, and wherever the enemy was met he was routed and severely punished. McCULLOUGH's brigade, of CHALMER's division, Ross' brigade at Moscow, and FERGUSON's at Ripley, displayed dash and gallantry, and the entire command did good service in destroying the Memphis and Charleston Railroad at different points.'

This road is not in running order yet, and it will require some time to repair it. The news from FORREST, who is in West Tennessee, is of a favorable character. Recruits are flocking to him by scores, and the only difficulty he has is to arm them."

FROM JOE JOHNSTON'S ARMY.

Correspondence of the Mobile Register.

DALTON, Ga., Sunday, Dec. 13, 1863.

The troops are building cabins and preparing quarters for the Winter, and it is hoped that all of them will be housed in a short time and protected from the wretched weather which now prevails. It is not believed that the enemy will seek us here for some time, if at all, this Winter. By next Spring we hope to be in a condition to treat him to another Chickamauga.

There is no change to report in the situation of affairs in this quarter. The report which has found its way to Atlanta to the effect that the enemy has evacuated Missionary Ridge and Lookout Mountain, leaving only a small garrison in Chattanooga, is without foundation, as are ninety-nine out of the hundred of the reports taken to the rear by "officers just from the front." Our scouts and pickets have not been within sight of Chattanooga since the battle, and our only information from that point has come through prisoners and citizens who have escaped from the lines of the enemy. These parties state that GRANT has sent off large bodies of troops to other points, principally towards Knoxville, but they bring no such intelligence as that he has withdrawn his forces from Lookout and Missouri Ridge.

The report here alluded to reminds me of another which has been put in circulation outside of the army, to the injury of a very worthy officer; I refer to the statement, said to be circulating through the press, that Capt. BAIN, Chief of the Signal Corps in this army, had deserted to the enemy. There is not one word of truth in the report. I saw Capt. BAIN yesterday and learned that Lieut. GEORGE E. TABB, of the Signal Corps, had disappeared under circumstances which left but little doubt of his desertion. Lieut. TABB is a native of Virginia, and his connection with Capt. BAIN's corps may have led to the mistake which associated the name of the latter with the transaction.

FROM CHATTANOOGA.

The Marietta (Chattanooga) *Rebel* says: "We have conversed with two young men from Chattanooga, who left that place on Tuesday last. They give a graphic picture of the Mountain City. Previous to the battle of Missionary Ridge, the Union army was reduced almost to starvation, and their mules and horses were dying daily by hundred for the want of forage. The Federals cut down all the cornstalks and ragweeds standing in the country around, and hauled them into town for their stock to eat; they also hauled in large quantities of oak leaves from the forests and fed them to their animals.

They acknowledge a loss of fifty-two hundred killed and wounded in the late battle. Those killed in the centre were hauled down from the ridge and buried in the graveyard at Chattanooga. Their number was about two hundred.

The car-shed has been converted into a fortress, by filling up the openings on the sides with logs and making loop-holes for musketry. The prisoners captured on Missionary Ridge were placed in the shed on their arrival at Chattanooga.

The destruction of property at Chattanooga has been immense. Scarcely a tree has been left standing in or around the town, and fences, palings and framed houses shared in the general destruction. There is not a fence in a dozen miles of town. The fine residence of Mr. J. SNIDER was torn down and the lumber burnt for firewood.

The machinery of the rolling mill which was being erected by S. B. LOWE & Co. was buried, but an old man named RILEY pointed out the spot where it was interred, and when our informant left, a number of Federals were engaged in resurrecting it. They had also dug up a steam engine buried by THOMAS WRENN & Co., near the foundry, and taken it, together with the engine belonging to the rebel office, and one they had taken from D. KAYLOR, and placed them at the river, and were throwing water upon Hog Hill, and from that point were distributing it throughout the town and their camps by means of troughs. They fitted up a press we were compelled to leave at Chattanooga, and with some type on which our *War Bulletin* was printed, were printing their orders, papers, &c.

The Western and Atlantic depot was used as a commissary depot, and the Bank of Chattanooga as a Provost-Marshal's office. The residence of A. C. VAN EPPS was occupied as headquarters by Gen. THOMAS.

Negligence at the Hamilton-avenue Ferry.

To the Editor of the New-York Times:

Nothing but a merciful interposition of Providence saved me on New Year's night from a disaster painful to contemplate, which some of the employes of the Associated Ferry Company of this City did all in their power to inflict upon me. While hurrying, about 9 P. M., from the stage to the Hamilton-avenue ferry-boat, I came in collision with a large iron beam or pillar lying directly in the way, and was thrown violently forward against another similar to the first, and placed a few feet in advance of it. Stunned and bleeding from a severe cut in my chin, I recovered my feet, and succeeded in reaching the boat in a fainting condition, where I rallied sufficiently while crossing the river to walk to my home in Second-place, Brooklyn, which I reached completely exhausted, and seriously suffering because of the flagrant neglect of the most ordinary precaution to guard the unwary passer against the danger to life and limb.

By giving these few lines a place in your paper, you will greatly oblige thousands who are daily annoyed, if not actually endangered, by obstructions in the streets.

CALIFORNIA GOSSIP.

Changes—Mining Operations—A Russian Ball—The Aquila and the Comanche—A Distinguished Guest.

From Our Own Correspondent.

SAN FRANCISCO, December, 1863.

Revenons à nos Moutons, as we find in the "Dictionary of Quotations." After a long respite to the readers of the TIMES, they must come to it; and hereafter, as time and opportunity admits, "our own correspondent" will hold forth as usual from California, and more especially San Francisco.

Since my last epistle, which was some time ago, this place has taken a start, and the people of New-York even are not more crazy, and the march of things is *onward*. San Francisco swells and grows "visibly before my eyes," as the older Mr. WELLER remarked on the occasion of "the tea-drinking," when the old lady drank her seventeenth cup. If San Francisco don't take a reef in her prosperity, there's no knowing how much larger than New-York we shall be in another fifteen years. It astonishes not only the Browns, but the Smiths, who have been absent, to look about them on their return, and see whole streets of houses where they left sand-hills. From what we hear of the recklessness, the extravagance, and greenbackitiveness in your City, we take it for granted that you are very much like the Indians, who never suffer themselves to be astonished. You are an enigma to yourselves, and can't spare time to think about what the balance of mankind are about, but whether you do or you don't, is of no consequence as long as we are as independent of that same balance as we are. Our mines are turning out splendidly, our turnips and potatoes are larger than ever, our fruit orchards are loaded, our vineyards overflowing with the juice of the grape, and we can eat ourselves and drink ourselves. We raise our own gold and silver, our own cereals, our own children, and do our own blowing. California is no longer a heathen country, and except when the steamer arrives and we get an importation from the East, that race is nearly extinct. Good order and law go hand in hand. We *do* have an occasional little passage of arms (fire-arms) in the interior towns, more to relieve the dullness of the day than from any malice in it. They are particularly lively with their "five-shooters" at Virginia City, or Washoe, as it is generally known. Virginia City is rather a lively place, take it all in all. 'I don't know any town of its size where a man can sooner succeed in getting a bullet through him, if he is industrious, than there. Flat-fights have either gone out of date or else they never were in vogue, for every quarrel, be it about a dog, or a mine, is referred to "Colt." I was up there a month or two since, and I only wish I had time to tell you the half of what I saw and experienced. It is, of course, a mining town, and located accidentally. Your first impression is that it must have been shot out of a six-pounder, and plastered against the side hill; your next is, that it must have been shook out of the end of a passing wagon and lost. When the famous Comstock "lead" was discovered, a little hut was built upon it; by and by, another; and, finally, when the emigration began to pour in, people built shanties anywhere they could, but managed to hover along the line of the ledge. The town grew, and gradually crawled down hill for room, but so anxious were all to hug the great gold-bearing ledge, that they did not think it worth while to lay out wide streets, so it is blessed with narrow alleys. But two streets of decent width, (about thirty feet) a mile or so in length, built up with first a splendid brick building, and then a shanty, all one story higher in front than in the rear, on account of the declivity, and as the mines are in full *blast*, and the busy picks and shovels are delving in the side hill above, it is a very frequent occurrence to meet a boulder coming down through some opening, considerably to the detriment of your toes. The shafts of the Ophir are just over your head; the *débris* of the "Central" rattles down on your hat; tunnels and excavations reverberate under your feet from the effects of a blast of a keg or two of powder under the street; then the dust and dirt, the busy crowd, the polite vociferations of the "gentlemanly teamsters" who navigate six mule teams through a narrow street crowded with other six mule teams; the cries of omnibus drivers. "Here you are for Gold Hill," &c., all serving to make a man feel that it is a duty he owes himself and his creditors to have a special insurance on his life against being run down by a six-mule team, or knocked out of existence by a passing gold-bearing quartz boulder, lodging in his hut; and yet, in all this bustle, noise, dirt, dust and swearing, you see chaps sitting in arm-chairs under awnings, cigar in mouth, laying back reading a paper and having their boots blacked—perfectly calm and collected, and apparently indifferent to the progress of the war or the price of stocks. One moment you meet an emigrant just in from across the plains, or an honest miner, with a beard of oriental dimensions, a ragged hat and ventilated garments. The next, you meet a miner that is not quite so honest, dressed as nicely and nattily as if he had just stepped out of BROOKS BROTHERS' emporium—and you might just as well keep clear of the latter if you have ideas of investing, for he will sell you stock in the Ophir, the "Sally Ann" or the Pacific Railroad. When all the sharp ones are driven out of that town, there will be houses to let. I saw a man pay $10,000 in gold for a lot 25x80; and I marveled and moralized—three or four years ago only, the whole place, mines and all, was traded off for an old rifle and a bob-tailed pony

at a time, into the bins or receptacles at the base, making noise enough to keep a thousand men awake. I retired again. Half an hour after I was startled into wakefulness by the explosion of a blast in some tunnel, running under the street a hundred feet under ground. Just before morning a couple of gentlemen under my window disagreed upon some subject, and argued the point with six-shooters—one intrenched himself behind a dry goods box and the other changed his base to a post on the opposite side of the street, and a smart skirmish ensued, while a solitary policeman looked on with great apathy and indifference, and an amiable desire to let the boys have their little fun if they wanted to without interference. I think I came nearest to being hit, for my head was out of the window, and they fired high. I retired again, rather suddenly, when I discovered their range, and fell asleep cogitating which was the worst, the shoot just witnessed or the "shute" of the Savage mine. If any ennuied gentlemen of your City are fond of traveling for a little excitement they had better come out here and visit Virginia City.

We have had a Russian ball, too, and a grand reception. It went off finely, and so did the hats and coats at the termination. Admiral POPOFF was received at the upper end of the ball-room by Gen. WRIGHT, of the regular army, and his staff, and our Admiral BELL and all his officers. The Russian Admiral speaks English briefly, and if brevity is the soul of wit, he wore a funny coat, for the tails had met with sudden discouragement early in their career. The uniforms of all the Russian officers looked as if they had been among the sharks, and had barely escaped in a roundabout way. There was some excuse for POPOFF, as he is only a Rear-Admiral, I believe. The music and the "*toot* ensemble" went off nicely, but the supper-room was inadequate to the number of people who got hungry all at once, and the consequence was, a scene of confusion unparalleled in the annals of supperdom. About all any one got was jam, and nobody succeeded in getting anything *inside*, but double rations outside. I looked in once, and had a glimpse of Admiral POPOFF, with a star glittering on his left breast, a chicken "drum-stick" in his mouth, a bunch of salad on the back of his neck, and both hands braced against the wall shutting in, making himself a de-fender for a lady who was vainly endeavoring to squirm through the crowd. All the champagne was absorbed by the ladies; I don't mean that they drank it, but they got it on and in their dresses. I noticed a whole plate of chicken salad disappearing between a lady's shoulders, a great relief to her hunger, undoubtedly, only it happened to be outside. My partner for the next dance emerged from the room a crushed and shapeless mass of flounces and crinoline, with an oyster pati and a ham sandwich in her hair for a head-dress. The supper was nothing to the crush in the hat-room. All the hats and coats had to be passed out of a little square hole by two unreliable contrabands, who got excited, and could not find the right hats for the right heads, and as patience ceased to be a virtue, a grand assault was made on the concern, and the whole structure came down, and the two "reliables," happening to be on ladders looking for hats on the top row, came down heavily on the pile of "beavers," and struggled and floundered in the mass until no man knew his own; consequently, every one grabbed the coat and hat nearest. One would have supposed from the general character of the caput covers as they issued from the room, that Admiral POPOFF had issued an edict that cocked and mashed chapeaus were the order of the evening. The poor Admiral emerged with the heavy sabre of a cavalry officer, instead of his own gilt-scabbarded delicate blade, and in place of his own plumed chapeau, an undress fireman's cap, lettered "Eureka No. 5," was perched on three hairs and over one eye. For several days the newspapers abounded with advertisements reading thus wise: "The gentleman who took, by mistake or otherwise, at the Russian ball, a beaver sack-coat, with two love letters and a bunch of cigars in the pocket, is requested to return same to ——, and receive in return an old tweed coat, with a theatre bill and a pawn-ticket found therein." It is a common thing now to inquire of a man appearing on the street well dressed, if he did not attend the Russian ball?

I suppose you have all learned the fate of our iron clad that was to defend us against all creation. The ship *Aquila* came into port with it on board, safely. After lying at anchor nearly a week of beautiful weather, she was towed to the wharf and made fast during a severe southeaster, which kicked up quite a sea. The wharfinger protested against it, but the contractors thought they knew best, and would have *their* way. The consequence was, that the ship beat against the wharf, and at low tide against the bottom, bilged and sunk, and stays so despite the efforts to raise her, pump her out, &c., and at the present writing the *Comanche* (the name of the monitor,) sits lower in the water by some fifteen feet than was ever contemplated. The attempts made to raise the ship have failed. There are parties here, however, who believe they *can* raise her, and are anxious to try at their own expense, but the wise heads having charge have announced that any party undertaking it must give bonds in the modest sum of *five hundred thousand dollars* (!), to do it or forfeit that trifle. Of course, such a bond is perfectly absurd. It ought to satisfy almost anybody, that a man prepared to spend ten or fifteen thousand dollars in the attempt, risks about as much as most people care to lose.

We hear that the Underwriters, in *their* wisdom, believing that all the smart men live in New-York, have dispatched a detachment of them hither to do the job, and show San Francisco mechanics how the trick is or will be done. When these smart fellows get here we expect to see the fur fly. I believe Directors of Insurance Companies are selected for the thickness of their skulls, and if, as I believe, that matters relating to the ship have been under their telegraphic directions, the last election of Directors was a great success and a happy illustration of the great principles of thickheadedness. Why don't some of the aforesaid Directors come out themselves, and direct the work, instead of toasting their toes in very comfortable easy chairs, before nice fires, in luxurious offices? They ought all to have a diploma for unparalleled stupidity. The iron-clad is a sore loss to us, and countless thousands mourn over the mishap. I fear she will never come to the surface again.

I presume you have all read of the late discoveries in Arizona of the richest mines yet known on the Pacific Coast. Most people, when they read anything of a remote country, and especially items coming from California, set it down as being on a par with the stories in early days of our big pumpkins, &c., and don't give it consideration. Now, in regard to gold mines, there's no mistake about it that we are constantly making new and really wonderful discoveries. The subscriber has the vanity to think that when he speaks of mines, he knows what he is talking about, as he has been down to the "bed-rock," commencing with the Ophir in its earliest days, when it was bought and sold at $50 per foot, and has been identified with mining interests ever since, consequently has given his mind to it.

When the Gadsden Treaty was made, everybody laughed and said what a price to pay for such a wretched, barren country. So it was, but it has proved a grand speculation and investment. Among the thousand or more claims and leads taken up on the banks of the Colorado and its vicinity, I can quote one as of itself being actually worth more than the whole amount paid for the country—that is, a mine located near Fort Mojave, about ten miles back from the Colorado River. This mine was first located or claimed by a party of miners out prospecting, about a year ago,' under the direction of a company of gentlemen in San Francisco, it being customary here for two or three to club together to send out a prospecting party, who take up claims in the names of the company, each man being entitled to 200 feet. The miners turn in their services as an offset to the capital invested for provisions, tools, animals, &c., and get their share of ground. One of these parties found an immense ledge of dark, claret-colored rock, cropping out for a half mile, and at one place running up to a height of 130 feet. They found "indications," as they are called, and proceeded to make their marks and locate their claims. As no further developments were then made, the real value of the claims were not known until recently, when parties curious and with greater experience examined the ledge more carefully, and found it very rich. Some of the smart ones immediately came up here and purchased the interests of the capitalists interested, and it now comes out that the claim, on which some excavating has been done, shows richer than anything yet known. One ton of the ore brought here will give at least $30,000. I have a piece of the rock showing a surface of gold and a thread of pure silver sufficient to give twice that value to the ton. Col. R. C. DUNN, of the army, just returned from a tour of inspection in Arizona, visited the ledge, and I copy from his description. He says that the ledge, from its base at the ground level (and the Lord only knows how much deeper it goes) to the summit, 130 feet, shows gold and silver all the way. He climbed to the summit and knocked off pieces showing gold to the naked eye, and again at its base, the character of the rock being precisely the same all the way down. He also tested and examined it at a considerable distance each way, with same results. Now here is a ledge 60 feet through, 130 feet high at its highest point, and sloping each way a quarter of a mile—the whole mass gold and silver bearing rock. It is not supposable that it is as valuable as the ton brought here, but suppose it pays but a hundred dollars a ton, it will nearly pay the interest on the national debt. It is a safe conclusion that the rock will nett $500 per ton, and quartz containing $10 per ton can be worked to a profit. The famous Mariposa mines, just sold by Gen. FREMONT to a New-York Company for several millions, do not produce rock averaging over $12 per ton, and yet it has been proven that they can be made to pay from $50,000 to $75,000 per month. It seems a large story to tell what I say of the "Moss lead," as it is called, but Col. DUNN is not a man to make a statement on any hasty evidence. He would never have suffered his name to be quoted in a matter that is now so amply indorsed that no man can doubt it, and it would not be healthy for any man to doubt the Colonel's word, and have it reach his ears. Lieut. D. J. WILLIAMSON, just from Fort Mojave, brings splendid rock from this lead, and is the lucky owner of forty feet in it—$300 per foot is freely offered and no takers. The stock will go higher when the question of who owns it is settled by the Courts. It appears that LEVI PARSONS, WM. M. LENT and GEO. HURST sent out the prospecting party that found this ledge, and sold out subsequently for about $3,000 all their interest in it to the parties now holding. Since it has been discovered to be a big thing they (PARSONS, LENT & HURST) have instituted suit to recover their original interests on the ground of fraud; they say that the value was misrepresented, and that they were induced to sell their birthrights for a mess of pottage, and are sanguine that they will recover it. Other people don't think so, and merely consider it one of the many sharp bargains in mining stocks that are made here every day. The plaintiffs are all rich, and have all made money in mines and mining stock, and are generally counted among the sharpest of the sharp. They have probably sold many a foot of ground that did *not* turn out worth a thousand dollars an inch, and they can well afford to let this slide and set it down as one of the times when they missed it. I don't pretend to judge of the real merits of the case, as like the Irishman, I have not yet heard the "ividence." The litigation in the matter keeps the price of stock down, however. When it is once settled it will be quoted "lively."

The mine is, as I before remarked, called the "Moss lead." MOSS, the discoverer, is a young man, who makes his home among the Indians in that country, and is "great friends" with all the chiefs—and on his return here a couple of weeks since, brought up with him, as his guest, the principal chief of the Mojaves. A man of sterling worth and a great friend to the whites, I believe he has saved a hundred lives of the gold seekers who have got strayed, lost and picked up by his people, brought in, fed and cared for, and then piloted on their way. This chief, called IRETABA, is now here sight-seeing. He puts up at the Occidental, where all the big-bugs stop, and considers LEWIS LELAND a big Injun and the father of a very large family. Once upon a time I sent, as a present to a chief of the Mojaves, a fanciful shirt. The chief had done a favor to some representatives of mine thereabouts. The shirt was the happy effort of a lot of merry sewing girls, and they made a gay one you may guess. It was of blue flannel and ornamented with cavalry worsted lace, infantry lace, soger buttons, beads, an edging of orange-colored cloth, a collar containing half a yard, very elaborately done up. This shirt nearly created a war of the races. The chief put it on, and with one of the old pattern leather bucket soldier caps a foot or two high on his head, he sailed out among his neighbors, the Pimos, a couple of hundred miles away, where he so astonished the dark browns that they were boiling over with envy; thence he trotted down the coast a hundred miles or so to show his fine feathers to some other natives who had *not* been to that manner born. The whole Injun community was intensely excited, so much so that a vigilance committee was formed, and it was unanimously resolved, firstly, that no one Injun, if he *was* a chief, had any right to have a better shirt than "any other man;" secondly, that the possession of such an article was a suspicious circumstance, and squinted to unwarrantable speculation in mining stocks, and it was surmised the delinquent was a member of the Board of Brokers, nobody else being able to wear such fine clothes; thirdly, as they had all lived all their lives without shirts or any such follies, as had their fathers before them, the pernicious influences of clothes of any kind should not be tolerated. The old chief had to *peel*. He rolled his shirt up, put it in the soger hat and buried it, subject to future consideration when the march of civilization would tolerate shirts. IRETABA had seen this shirt, and, although a stoical old Indian, he was not insensible to its beauties. On his arrival here he inquired for me; he wanted to make my acquaintance. On being introduced, he remarked, "Me have see great shirt Hiyah," which was intended as a compliment to *my* taste, and which I fully appreciated, as *his* had never been vitiated by vulgar associations with people who wore shirts. IRETABA is walking around town, seeing the sights, saying nothing, but keeping up a devil of a thinking. He is a little astonished at the quantity of liquor he sees drank, and remarked the other day, "White man whiskee much—six Injun very drunk;" meaning that the little daily absorption of one good Democrat would lay out half a dozen "Abrigoines." Moss tells me that he is going to New-York on the steamer of the 23d, and will take IRETABA with him, just to show him the sights. So it is quite probable you will soon see the chief of three thousand warriors strolling unconcernedly along Broadway. He does not dress in his usual costume—shirt collar and spurs—(without the former and minus the latter)—is dressed like "any other man," but suffers his long hair to hang down his back unrestrained. He has a fine, sensible face, denoting character and firmness. Let all treat the old man well, for he has done a great deal for "poor white trash," and saved many a life. It is true that he did do a little scalping in early days, the effect of a little exuberance of juvenile spirits, but that was a long time ago and isn't worth mentioning; the people he "sculped" would probably have died by this time anyhow. Show him up, let him have a reception; show him Central Park, don't collar him and walk him up there the first day, as I hear you do with strangers, and as they do in Boston, (a common practice.) Let WARREN LELAND give him the Tycoon apartments. (He won't sleep on a bed—takes the floor and a blanket.) Let NED BURR show him diamonds and jewelry, let BREWSTER & Co. trot him out and show him one of their nattiest wagons; let him be great among the Gentiles, for IRETABA is a prince in his own country, and left thirty odd wives pining and mourning his absence, consequently he is a man of many woes (thirty odd.) Give him a Russian ball, and let Alderman Boozi preside.

In my next I will give you a chapter on the Ophir and Gould & Curry mines. The Ophir declared a dividend last month of $60 per foot, or about 4 per cent a month, on present prices of stock. The Gould & Curry Company's product from their mine, for the last ten days, is $240,000—at the rate of eight and a half millions a year. Who says our mines are a humbug?

BIERSTADT, the artist, has left us and gone to your city. He said big things of us and our scenery. Says there is nothing in the world equal to the scenery of the Yosemite Valley. His literary companion, FITZHUGH LUDLOW, has also left us, after doing some big things for the *Golden Era*, which numbers among its contributors Artemus Ward, Orpheus C. Kerr, LUDLOW, "Inigo," (who, I believe, is the orilliant C. H. WEBB, formerly of New-York,) and ADAH ISAACS MENKEN, the gushing. The *Golden Era* is great. JOE LAWRENCE says so, and he ought to know, for he is its editor and proprietor. More anon.

THE STATE FINANCES.

Report of H. H. Van Dyck, Superintendent of the Bank Department.

The annual report of the Bank Superintendent which we noticed yesterday, comprises a pamphlet of 32 pages. Its exhibits are quite satisfactory, but the recommendations and arguments of the Superintendent, on subjects connected with the State and National currency, will meet with dissent from many sources.

OPERATIONS FOR THE YEAR.

The operations of this Department during the last fiscal year have been marked by no circumstances of unusual significance. No failure of any bank, banking association or individual banker has occurred in this State during the year. Ten new associations and three individual bankers have filed certificates and commenced business during the period mentioned. Six of the associations thus formed resulted from the continuation in business of incorporated banks whose charters expired on the 1st of January, 1863. The associations formed within the year have an aggregate specific capital of $1,950,000. The total amount of banking capital in the State, as indicated by the quarterly report of Sept, 26, 1863, is $109,258,147. The total number of banks, banking associations and individual bankers doing business is 309, and of closing and insolvent banks, 51.

The amount of circulating notes issued and outstanding at the close of the fiscal year was as follows:

To banking associations and individual bankers	$35,252,219
Incorporated banks	6,940,426
Total	$42,192,645

The aggregate outstanding circulation at the close of the fiscal year ending Sept. 30, 1862, was $42,239,836, thus showing a decrease within the last fiscal year of $47,191, although there was an increase in banking capital during the same period of $652,085.

SECURITIES.

The securities held in trust in this Department at the close of the fiscal year were:

For banking associations and individual bankers	$37,462,301 76
For incorporated banks	76,934 84
For trust companies	100,000 00
Total	$37,639,236 60

Of the securities thus held for banking associations and individual bankers there was of New-York State stock $17,343,140, of United States stock $15 797,850, and of bonds and mortgages $3,862,097. A comparison of these amounts with the same items in the last Annual Report from this Department will show the following result:

Increase in United States stock	$3,898,400
Decrease in New-York stock	1,679,750
Decrease in bonds and mortgages	1,050,397

These changes can be readily accounted for. Up to April last one-half of the amount deposited in this Department as security for circulating notes was required to be New-York stock—the other half might be made up of United States stock and mortgages, at the option of the depositor. But at the last session of the Legislature a law was passed (chap. 241, Laws of 1863,) restricting the securities to be received after its passage to stocks alone; and altering the ratio, so as to admit the deposit of two-thirds of United States stock to one-third of New York.

INCORPORATED BANKS AND THE SAFETY FUND.

The charters of the Albany City Bank, the Farmers' and Manufacturers' Bank of Poughkeepsie, and the Highland Bank, will expire on the 1st day of January, 1864. Arrangements have already been completed by which they will continue business as Associations under the General Banking laws of the State. There will then remain but seven incorporated banks, all of whose charters (save those of the Manhattan Company's Bank and the Bank of the Dry Dock Company, whose charters are unlimited) will expire on the 1st of January, 1866. The amount of contributions required to be paid to the Safety Fund up to the expiration of the charters in 1866, is $64,250. The amount of this fund on hand at the close of the fiscal year, applicable to the redemption of the outstanding stock and the payment of interest, was $49,666 80. Since the close of the year, $5,000 additional has been received out of the assets of the Buffalo Commercial Bank, by the hand of S. G. AUSTIN, Receiver, and added to the capital of the fund. As the stock issued on the credit of the fund is not redeemable until 1866, and as the money on deposit in the State Treasury was only drawing an interest of 3 per cent., it was deemed advisable, under the authority conferred upon the Superintendent of this Department by chap. 274, Laws of 1833, to invest $50,000 in United States 6 per cent. stock; and that amount is now so held, subject to future requirements. The outstanding liabilities on the fund, in the shape of stock issued, amount to $41,744 90. Should there be no default in payment of the contributions due from the existing banks, there will be about $77,000 remaining on hand at the expiration of the bank charters, in 1866.

LEGAL-TENDER NOTES AND SPECIE PAYMENTS.

The suspension of specie payments by the banks still continues, and it is difficult to foretell the period at which a return to their normal condition may be anticipated. Certainly not until the vast requirements and expenditures of the Government shall have been so far lessened as to permit of the resumption of specie payments by the Federal Treasury. This can only be reasonably expected as the result of a termination of the civil war still unhappily raging in our country, and through the withdrawal from circulation of the present large amount of irredeemable paper, national and corporate, afloat in the loyal States. In the meantime the banks of this State are relieved from the penalties incident to a refusal to redeem their circulation in gold and silver, by the intervention of notes issued by the General Government.

TAXATION ON CORPORATIONS.

An effort should be made to approximate to equality in the imposition of taxes, and in my judgment no greater service could be rendered to the people of the State at this juncture than by a thorough revision of the laws bearing on this subject. An unusual degree of confusion exists throughout the State on the subject of taxation, growing out of the exemptions made by Congress in respect to United States securities. How far this principle of exemption from State taxation attaches to investments of this description, has not yet been accurately determined. The banking institutions of the State hold United States securities to an amount exceeding their aggregate capitals. Even this bears but a small proportion to the sum held by individuals, and when this amount of capital is abstracted from the taxable property of the State, it becomes obvious that the burdens imposed upon other forms of investment must be greatly enhanced.

Heretofore the *capital* of each bank, association, &c., has been the direct subject of taxation; but as the Supreme Court of the United States has decided that such capital, when invested in United States stock, is exempt, it will be perceived that the bill just quoted endeavors to steer clear of this difficulty by taxing them on a valuation equal to their capital, without specifying whether such taxation is imposed on deposits, circulation, the business of banking or all combined—making the capital only the measure of extent to which taxation may be carried. Whether the object contemplated by this bill can be attained under it, is as yet undetermined. It is understood that suits are now in progress to test the validity of taxes assessed under this law, and will probably reach the Court of Appeals at its next term.

NATIONAL CURRENCY ACT.

The Superintendent argues at length against the establishment of the National Banks, and says In no State are they less needed than in this. We have not room to give his reasonings. The following is the most cogent argument set forth:

The lessons of experience, as well as the principles of sound reasoning, are also repugnant to the theory that the currency to be issued by banks scattered throughout the the country can be kept at par at the commercial centres by the mere fact that they are received for public dues. Even within the limited area of this State, it is known that before the system of fixed redemptions was adopted the issue of country banks ranged at various rates of discount, although received for taxes, canal tolls, and all dues to the State. So long as the present suspension of specie payments continues, it is not improbable that the notes of the National Banks may circulate upon the same terms with other irredeemable paper. It sent home for payment, nothing could be extorted in return save the "legal tender" notes of the Government. But when the foundations of redemption in coin shall again come in vogue, the notes of banks located in inaccessible places will be left to the tender mercies of brokers, whilst those of distant cities and towns will be subject to the unalterable laws of exchange. A redemption at the principal business centres on the seaboard, enforced by act of Congress, may mitigate these results; but without action of this nature, it is quite certain that uniformity of value will never be predicated of the so-called "National currency."

NATIONAL BANKS AND STATE LAWS.

It has been the policy of this State hitherto to tolerate within its limits only such banks as derived their existence from powers granted by its Legislature. As associations have already been organized within this State under act of Congress, a conflict of jurisdiction ensues which can only be productive of litigation. A bill was introduced at the last session of the Legislature to obviate this difficulty, and though it passed the Senate, it failed to receive the concurrence of the Assembly. The subject is respectfully commended to the Legislature, in the hope that the antagonism of law now presented may be obviated in such manner as shall seem most honorable to the State.

GEN. BUTLER'S DEPARTMENT.

Military Promotions—One Hundred and Forty-eighth N. Y. S. V.

Correspondence of the New-York Times:

FORT YORKTOWN, Va., Tuesday, Jan. 5, 1864.

The following promotions have been made in the One Hundred and Forty-eighth regiment, N. Y. S. V., during the year ending Dec. 31, 1863:

Lieut.-Col. George Murray Guion to be Colonel Oct. 26, 1863, *vice* Wm. Johnson, resigned; Major John B. Murray to be Lieut.-Colonel Oct. 26, 1863, *vice* George M. Guion, promoted; Adjutant H. T. Noyes to be Major Oct. 26, 1863, *vice* John B. Murray, promoted; First Lieut. Fred. L. Manning to be Adjutant Oct. 26, 1863, *vice* H. S. Noyes, promoted; James Bellows to be Surgeon March 13, 1863, *vice* E. W. Simmons, resigned; First Asst. Surgeon C. H. Carpenter, to be Surgeon August 29, 1863, *vice* James Bellows, resigned; Augusus Campbell to be Second Asst. Surgeon May 5, 1863, *vice* F. B. Seelye, resigned; Robert O. Craig to be First Asst. Surgeon Sept. 16, 1863, *vice* C. H. Carpenter, promoted; Thomas Helme to be Second Asst. Surgeon Nov. 13, 1863, *vice* A. Campbell, promoted; Ferris Scott to be Chaplain April 23, 1863, *vice* Dickinson, resigned.

To be Captain—First Lieut. Alex. Gilchrist, Jr., Nov. 6, 1863.

To be First Lieutenants—Second Lieut. A. J. Cooke, Jan. 8, 1863; Second Lieut. John G. Evenden, April 6, 1863; Second Lieut. Geo. D. Hucke, April 27, 1863; Second Lieut. H. H. Hopkins, Sept. 24, 1863; First Sergt. C. H. Paddock, Oct. 9, 1863; Second Lieut. Henry Parsons, Oct. 26, 1863; Second Lieut. Reuben F. Scott, Nov. 5, 1863; Second Lieut. John M. Sharp, Nov. 6, 1863.

To be Second Lieutenants—First Sergt. O. M. Adams, April 6, 1863; First Sergt. Wm. S. Voice, Jan. 8, 1863; Fifth Sergt. C. J. Johnson, Oct. 26, 1863; First Sergt. James McNaughton, Nov. 5, 1863; Private H. S. McLeod, Nov. 6, 1863; First Sergt. W. H. Redgraves, Sept. 24, 1863. Official, JOHN COOLEY, First Lieut. and Acting Adjutant.

Gen. Butler and the Norfolk Gas-Works.

A SHARP LETTER ON CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS.

From the Boston Transcript.

The following is Gen. BUTLER'S latest literary performance. The Gas Company of Norfolk having sealed up their works and refused for six or eight months past to light the city, Gen. BUTLER ordered the establishment to be seized. Thereupon the directors came out under the "constitutional rights" and argued that the military authorities had no right to seize the works under the Constitution. Gen. BUTLER'S letter—which has never before been published—contains the argument of the directors and Gen. BUTLER'S answer:

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
DEPARTMENT OF VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
FORT MONROE, Va., Dec. 29, 1863.

GENERAL: I have received your communication of the 24th of December to A. T. M. COOKE, Esq., Chairman of the stockholders' meeting of the Norfolk Gas Company, covering the letter of Mr. COOKE to yourself, relating to the taking of the Norfolk Gas-Works by the military authorities of the United States, and beg that you will forward him this communication in reply.

Mr. COOKE claims for the Gas Light Company that they possess very valuable works, for which they now claim large compensation from the Government; that the majority of the stockholders have duly conformed to the requirements of General Order No. 49, and that the Company were about putting the works in order when they were taken by the Government for military purposes, in violation of the constitutional rights of the stockholders.

It will be observed, first, that until within a few days, a majority of the stockholders have acknowledged and are known as having been in rebellion against the Government of the United States, and as having endeavored to overthrow that Constitution about which now they so glibly talk, and have only just now taken the oath of allegiance to that Government which they have sought to destroy, in conformity to the requirements of a military order. And even now, under these peculiar circumstances, with the oath fresh in their mouths—in a communication from the stockholders to the agents of the Government, with their claims of new fledged rights frequently repeated, the word loyalty or allegiance to the Government never finds place. They say that they have conformed to the requirements of General Order No. 49. That order requires of them nothing, and more than one of them have said, as I am informed and believe, that they took the oath to save their property, and that they claim—not that they are loyal—but that they have taken out a protection.

Such men, loyal with lip-service only, so far as I am concerned, have few constitutional rights which I feel much inclined to respect. When they become loyal in heart as on lip, and speak of taking the oath of allegiance to their country—not as a requirement, but as a duty—it will be time enough to discuss their constitutional rights. If their property is as valuable as they claim it, why have the Company left it to go to ruin for many months, without any attempt on their part to put the gas-works in operation and light the city? Did their rebellious proclivities overcome even their love of gain, so that they were willing to sacrifice their property rather than to aid the Government of the United States by lighting it, in protecting their city from the robber, the burglar and the incendiary? Is it not true that they have refused the military authorities of the United States, more than once, to light the city, and continued in that refusal until after they were informed that the works were to be seized upon for that purpose, and the Government had incurred expenses in that behalf?

I should be quite inclined, as an act of justice, to promise them in the future a monthly average rent equal to what they have received for the past nine months, as a compensation from the Government for the use of their works. Their Chairman talks of the economical management of the Company as compared with the prospective management of the Government, and he certainly ought to be quite satisfied if he is assured from the Government the same rent which he has received under his own management. Exactly what will be done is this: The works will be put in repair, more economically by 20 per cent. than the estimate which was made for the Company for the repair of the works.

They will be carried on efficiently and economically, so that the City of Norfolk will be fully lighted, and its peace and quiet in the darkness of the night be assured, until it is made certain, that in case of an attack upon the City of Norfolk, the rebel proclivities of the owners will not leave the city in darkness, as a means of impairing the defence made by the United States forces, and when the owners have by their works, and not by their lips, convinced the military authorities that they can rely upon their loyalty for aid in repelling an invasion of the rebels, and a keeping up of the works to aid us in that behalf; then, and not until then, will the works be returned to their custody. In the meantime, accurate accounts will be kept of the receipts and expenditures, and the excess of profits, which no doubt will be paid to those who are loyal in the sense of the word as understood by loyal men.

You are at liberty, General, if you please, to cause this communication to be published for the information of other citizens, if any in Norfolk, who stand in like case. I have the honor to be,

Very respectfully, yours,
[Signed] B. F. BUTLER,
Maj.-Gen. Commanding.

To Brig.-Gen. JAMES BARNES, Commanding at Norfolk.

We learn that the work of organizing colored troops—infantry, cavalry, and artillery—is progressing rapidly in Gen. BUTLER'S department. He reviewed four thousand men on New-Year's Day, and was greatly pleased with their military demeanor.

A SHARP ORDER.

HEADQUARTERS EIGHTEENTH ARMY CORPS,
DEPARTMENT VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA,
FORT MONROE, Dec. 31, 1863.

GENERAL ORDER, No. 66.—Lieut.-Col. G. G. MARTIN, First U. S. Colored troops, being a Captain in the New-York Marine Artillery, while at Newbern in the face of the enemy having resigned his commission, not on account of physical disability, but for family reasons, afterwards received his appointment as Lieutenant-Colonel in contravention of the spirit of paragraph No. 4, General Order No. 57, series of 1861, which provides that officers of volunteers who resign their commission will not be received into the service of the United States as officers of other volunteer organizations.

Lieut.-Col. G. G. MARTIN, while on duty with two regiments near Portsmouth, Va., appeared at a public charitable fair, in uniform, in the presence of the Commanding General, in a state of intoxication, to the disgrace of the service, if not to himself, and is, for these reasons, dismissed from the service of the United States, subject to the approval of the President, and will cease to be an officer from this day, unless reinstated.

Second Lieut. HENRY M. DAY, Company E, First New-York Colored troops, having been repeatedly intoxicated, and appearing in that state in uniform in the public streets of Portsmouth, Va., and again coming into camp in a state of intoxication, and grossly insulting the commanding officer of his regiment as appears by his own confession, is dismissed from the service, subject to the approval of the President of the United States.

By command of Maj.-Gen. BUTLER.
R. S. DAVIS, Maj. and Ass't Adjt.-Gen.

GEN. GRANT'S DEPARTMENT.

Transportation and Supplies—The Fight at Charleston.

A correspondent of the Cincinnati *Commercial* writes under date of Chattanooga, Dec. 31:

The want of sufficient transportation is severely felt by the army. All the supplies now reaching the army are obtained over the Nashville and Chattanooga railway, which is taxed beyond its capacity. The rolling stock of this road is in a fearful state of repair, and smash-ups and other accidents are almost of daily occurrence. Yet the army seems to subsist, nevertheless, although the animals suffer greatly for their supplies of forage. During the past week it was so scarce that one day's forage subsisted the mules for six days. The consequence was that large numbers died of starvation. The boats, however, have brought forward a supply, and for the present the quadrupeds are well fed.

Two new boats, recently built, do much service in transporting rations and forage from Bridgeport, but affairs will wear a more cheering aspect in the course of four or five days, when the railroad from here to Bridgeport is completed. Then we will have a continuous line of rail with Nashville and all points North. The bridges over the Tennessee and at Falling Waters are about completed, as will be seen from the fact that on Monday an engine came to the base of Lookout Mountain, about two miles from the depot. Its appearance was received as a good omen of the future.

THE BATTLE AT CHARLESTON.

On Thursday last, 3,500 men, composed of convalescents and recruits, left here, under command of Col. LAIBOLD, Second Missouri, in charge of a train en route to Knoxville. The detachment belonged to various regiments in Wood's and SHERIDAN'S divisions, of the Fourth corps. Company K, new recruits just here from the North, under command of Lieut.-Col. MOORE, of the One Hundred and Twenty-fifth Ohio, and a number of recruits for the One Hundred and Twenty-fourth Ohio, were in the detachment. As the road is infested by guerrillas, your correspondent has not obtained further particulars than the following dispatch from the commander of the force:

CAMP NEAR CALHOUN, Dec. 28, 1863.

SIR: It affords me great pleasure to report to you that I have given the rebel Gen. WHEELER a sound thrashing this morning. I had succeeded, in spite of the most abominable roads, to reach Charleston on the night of the 27th, and this morning, shortly after daylight, I was moving my train across the Hiwassee River bridge, when WHEELER'S cavalry—reported 1,500 men strong, with four pieces of artillery, which, however, they had no time to bring into action—appeared on my rear. I placed my infantry in line of battle, then got my train over the bridge safely, and asked Col. LONG to place a regiment of cavalry at my disposal. These arrangements made, I charged with my infantry, on the double-quick, on the astonished rebels, and routed them completely, when I ordered a cavalry charge, to give them the finishing touch. The charge was made in good style, but the number of our cavalry was insufficient for an effective pursuit, and so the enemy got away, and was even able to take his guns along, which, with numerous prisoners must have fallen into my hands, could I have made a pursuit.

I have now with me, as prisoners, five commissioned officers, among whom is the Inspector General of Gen. KELLY'S division, a surgeon, and 126 men of different regiments.

WHEELER commanded in person, and it was reported to him, as the prisoners state, that I had six hundred wagons in my train, which he expected to take without much trouble.

The casualties on my side are as follows:

Third Division—Two commissioned officers wounded, two men killed, eight wounded, and one missing. Second Division—Four men wounded.

The rebels lost, beside the number stated, several severely wounded, which I am obliged to leave behind, and probably several killed. The number of small arms thrown away by them is rather large, and they will undoubtedly be gathered by Col. LONG.

I shall pursue my march at daybreak to-morrow.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
BERNARD LAIBOLD,
Colonel Second Missouri Infantry.

Lieut.-Col. FULLERTON, Adjt.-Gen. Fourth Corps.

At the earliest possible moment a list of the wounded will be sent you, as well as later intelligence of WHEELER'S movements. WHEELER reorganized his force for the purpose of making extensive raids, but from the manner in which he executed this one, he will not, likely, accomplish much. LONG'S cavalry or WILDER'S mounted infantry will take care of him. They are fully able to cope with all rebel cavalry in our front.

DIFFICULTIES OF TRANSPORTATION.

Touching the difficulties of transportation a correspondent of the Milwaukee *Wisconsin* writes from Bridgeport, Ala:

"Two months ago there was no transportation from here to Chattanooga, except by mule teams over a horribly bad road—no railroad—no water communication. There were two bridges to be built here near each other, one about one-fourth of a mile long and fifty-eight feet high to the track; the other about half that length and about forty feet high. Within that time, the Government has rigged up two small steamers to run from the landing above the bridge to Kelly's Landing, ten miles this side of Chattanooga, and since BRAGG'S defeat, through to that point. These steamers will not carry more than forty or fifty tons at a trip. The bridges at this point are so nearly completed that cars have passed over them, but all supplies for Chattanooga are still sent by these two little steamers.

Now for what is being and to be done. Three additional steamers are being fitted out here to ply on the river above, two of which have been launched and will soon be in service. A side track has been added to the railroad running round the high hill over which everything for the boat has to be hauled by teams, and the first cars passed over this track day before yesterday. At the steamboat landing the Government is building seven hundred feet in length of storehouses. Another railroad bridge is being constructed at Running Water, or Falling Water. The bridge is to be *eight hundred feet long and one hundred and twenty feet high*. This work will hardly be completed in two months from this time, but when completed, will open the road to Chattanooga.

When we consider that the facilities now afforded between here and Chattanooga would not supply the army there present at the last battles with more than half rations, and that the same process of reconstructing railroads must be carried on as our army advances, we need not expect that it will reach Atlanta in a very great hurry.

It may be asked, what then is to be done? Is a new line of operations to be adopted? SHERMAN'S corps is moving back toward the Mississippi on the line of the Memphis Railroad. They are passing here daily, and some think it indicates a drive at Montgomery and Mobile, I think not, but rather to open the Memphis road as a tributary for supplies through Chattanooga. However that may be, it is evident, from preparations going on, that the destination of the Army of the Cumberland is onward to Atlanta, and into the very gizzard of the rebellion; and the loyal people have only to wait with patience till such preparations have been made as will make every step of advance as firm as the mountains through which they are passing. The reconstruction and improvement of the road from Nashville to Chattanooga, and the large amount of rolling stock and motive power being provided for it, and the steamboats and immense warehouses being constructed here, and the constant accumulation of stores, all point to Chattanooga as the future base of an onward movement in that direction."

Who Lost the Battle of Chickamauga?

NOTES ON GEN. ROSECRANS' REPORT, BY GEN. WOOD.

At date of Chattanooga, Oct. 21, Brig.-Gen. THOMAS L. WOOD replies to the following extract from the report of Gen. ROSECRANS:

"Gen. WOOD, overlooking the order to close up on Gen. REYNOLDS, supposed he was to support him by withdrawing from the line and passing to the rear of Gen. BRANNAN, who, it appears, was not out of line, and in *echelon* and slightly in rear of REYNOLDS' right. By this unfortunate mistake, a gap was opened in the line of battle, of which the enemy took instant advantage, and, striking DAVIS in flank and rear, as well as in front, threw his whole division in confusion."

Gen. WOOD writes:

"The plain intention and object of the entire paragraph is to shield Gen. ROSECRANS from the responsibility of the unfortunate mistake, and its still more unfortunate consequences, and to fix the responsibility on myself."

He makes the following explanation and defence:

"At 10½ o'clock of Sunday morning the 20th of September ult., the following was the position of my division in line of battle: The left of my division was closed up on and rested firmly against the right of Gen. BRANNAN'S division, which in turn had its left fully up, and resting on the right of Gen. REYNOLDS' division. Gen. BRANNAN assures me that his division was in line with Gen. REYNOLDS' division, with his left closed up, and resting firmly on REYNOLDS' right. On the right of my division was Gen. DAVIS' division.

At the time my division was not engaged at all—not a shot being fired on the front. Half an hour previously there had been some skirmishing, but that had subsided. There was, however, satisfactory reason for believing that the enemy was in considerable force in my front, hence I was keenly on the alert. But while the enemy was quiescent on my front, he was not so elsewhere. The roar of artillery and the rattle of musketry, borne to us from the left, told unmistakably that our comrades were heavily engaged with the foe.

A few minutes, perhaps five, before 11 o'clock A. M., on the 20th, I received the following order:

HEADQUARTERS, D. C.,

GEN. BANKS' DEPARTMENT.

ADDITIONAL FROM NEW-ORLEANS.

A NAVY-YARD.

From the New-Orleans Era.

The progress of events, as developed by this war, as well as the liabilities of the future, clearly indicate the great importance of the establishment of a complete naval depot at New-Orleans; and we are glad to announce that measures are already in progress looking to this end. The feasibility of constructing a dry dock here by means of a basin of masonry and a floating dock similar to that at Pensacola, which was destroyed by the rebels, is not doubted. Proposals have already been received for this job.

The growing extent of the United States Ordnance Depot, in the Redding Press, on Erato and New Levee streets, it being the depot of the Western Division of the Gulf Squadron, not only for ordnance but all other naval stores, is a standing argument for the necessity of increased and thorough facilities for performing all sorts of naval work. In the Press may be found all kinds of ordnance, from a 12-pounder howitzer to a 250-pounder Parrot, and 11-inch Dahlgrens; together with all kinds of ammunition, including the 15-inch solid shot, weighing 400 pounds.

One hundred and fifty men are employed here in repairing and fitting up vessels, filling shells, &c. A few days since a small steamer, made up from a launch of the old steamer *Mississippi*, was sent afloat from the depot. It is named *Royal*, in compliment to ROYAL FARRAGUT, a son of the Commodore, and is for the use of the Commodore on the river. Another steamer of the same description is constructing at the Press.

We visited the depot yesterday, at which time a Board of Survey was engaged in examining a quantity of damaged powder, landed from the bark *Bohio*. The powder had been, like much other, injudiciously packed in wooden cases, instead of metallic ones.

The depot is under the charge of Acting Master A. C. STARRETT, who came out here in command of the ordnance ship *Sportsman*, with all the ordnance and munitions of war used in the reduction of Forts Jackson and St. Philip. He is a faithful and efficient officer, and the valuable service he has rendered the country justly entitles him to the promotion which his friends are anticipating is near at hand.

THE TECHE COUNTRY.

The New-Orleans *Picayune*, of Dec. 30, comments rather sharply upon a letter dated in that city, and published in the Manchester *Guardian*, giving an exaggerated statement of the resources of the Teche country. It says:

"For the information of the writer's friends, and the public in Liverpool, we have to state that the receipts of cotton from the Teche country, from the 1st of September to last evening, (28th of December,) are twelve hundred and fourteen bales, and fourteen hundred and seventy-five sacks and bags, all told. The quantity for the two months is one thousand six hundred and eighteen bales, instead of ten thousand bales for four or five weeks following the date of the letter. Letters of this description are too frequently written; whether they are dictated by ignorance or a disposition to misrepresent the true state of affairs, our readers must be judges. For the information of the author of the letter, his correspondents and friends in Liverpool, and all others who labor under irregular information as to the Teche country, so-called, we desire to state that sugar has been the chief product of that section from time immemorial; that the parishes on the borders of the Teche are St. Mary and St. Martin; St. Landry higher up, Vermilion distant from the Teche, Lafayette, and the Parish of Calcasieu still further west; these parishes are all that can be included in the Teche country. Last year letter writers had it that there were 200,000 bales of cotton in this district, but not one-tenth of the quantity was ever raised in one season within its limits, and of course there never was any such fabulous number of bales west of the Teche."

TRADE.

From the New-Orleans Picayune, Dec. 30.

An avalanche of news and general intelligence has fallen on our community during the last seventy-two hours. It has come from all quarters; from New-York to the 19th, direct; from Europe up to the 5th, 7th and 8th instant, and from the West up to the 21st instant. It puzzled the quid nunes which end to take hold of first. There was also on Sunday morning a heavy storm of rain, which altered the condition of the great depot of sugar on the Levee. Some few hours duration of the storm would have very materially damaged the sugar awaiting purchasers and shipments; as it was, the supply of mud yesterday was more than convenient for weighers, factors, and the gimlet rangers. There were several parcels of cotton in seed, though in sacks, exposed to the pelting of the rain. It is not out of place to remind those interested, that cotton-seed has for years been regarded as combustible; that many cotton-gins have been destroyed by fire, the origin of which was traced to the dampness of the seed after passing through the gin, and being then thrown outside and thus exposed to the elements, it often, very often ignites. We have been favored thus far with a very dry Winter, consequently there have been very slight interruptions to the general warehousing of sugar and molasses on the grand levee. There is ample space yet for some few more hundreds of hogsheads of sugar and barrels of molasses. There is a vacant space to be filled up in the batture below Bienville-street, which will have to be pushed forward or the river may advance too rapidly and cause a delay till next season. The river in front of the city appears to be rising with some effect.

The market for sugar in New York on the 19th was steady, and rates uniform. Sales of New-Orleans were quoted at from 13½c. to 14c. for brown, and 13½c. to 15¾c. for clarified.

The cotton market was affected by the Liverpool accounts of the 5th and 7th. The Liverpool accounts quote a heavy decline, reaching to 1d.@1½d. What has brought this about is not fully explained, but it is conjectured that it was chiefly the advance in the rate of interest by the Bank of England. The constant calls for gold to ship to Egypt, India and other places, in payment for cotton, has much to do with these variations. The high price of cotton all over the world influences and controls that great monetary centre, London.

We notice that our market, yesterday, was rather quiet than otherwise, though holders were firm and not inclined to give way. The stock is so very light that large dealers have nothing to select from.

The freight market is depressed, though the regular steamers for New-York have no difficulty in filling up at good prices. Sailing vessels cannot obtain sufficient for ballast. European freights are also scarce, with very little prospect for improvement.

The streets were well thronged yesterday, without anything important in the way of sales of general merchandise being realised. Our dry goods dealers, clothing merchants, and similar branches of trade, appear to have good stocks.

The weather last evening gave indications of favorableness, for a few days at least, for general out-of-door business.

A SEIZURE.

From the New-Orleans Era, Dec. 30.

Capt. NICHOLS and his "merry men" made a heavy seizure of contraband goods last Saturday night at the Lake, capturing at least $25,000 worth, and arresting the owners, eight well authenticated and good old blockade-runners. The Captain and his detectives are always on the look out, and few smugglers elude their vigilance.

MILITARY ORDERS.

WAGES OF GOVERNMENT EMPLOYES.

HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF THE GULF, }
NEW-ORLEANS, Dec. 28, 1863. }

GENERAL ORDERS No. 88.—On and after the 1st day of January, 1864, the wages of mechanics, laborers, and other employes on steamboats and railroads, in machine shops, foundries, shipyards, etc., will be established and paid as follows, viz.:

First class mechanics	$3 25 per day.
Second class mechanics	2 50 per day.
Third class mechanics	2 00 per day.
Engineers (locomotive)	3 25 per day.
Engineers (stationary) first class	3 00 per day.
Engineers (stationary) second class	2 50 per day.
Engineers (stationary) third class	2 00 per day.
Laborers, without rations	1 50 per day.
Laborers, with rations	1 25 per day.
Wagon masters, with rations	50 00 per mth.
Teamsters, with rations	25 00 per mth.
Hostlers and stable hands, with rations	25 00 per mth.
Blacksmiths and shoers, first class, with rations	45 00 per mth.
Blacksmiths and shoers, second class, with rations	35 00 per mth.
Levee hands	1 25 per day.
Firemen and deck hands, on river boats, with rations	35 00 per mth.
Ordinary hands on river boats, with rations	30 00 per mth.

All employes of the Government, in the absence of special contract, will be held to service until properly discharged, and will be exempted from the draft or compulsory military service during the period of such employment.

Mechanics, laborers or other employes who desert their employment without proper discharge, or who prove dishonest or unfaithful to the Government, will be held to military service, or such punishment as may be enforced by a military court.

Hospital accommodations will be furnished to all employes of the Government, in case of sickness, without other charge than the usual hospital tax, which will be deducted from their wages as heretofore, and stopped on the monthly rolls.

The wages of all other persons employed in the Quartermaster's Department will be regulated and paid by the Chief Quartermaster.

All persons employed in civil service in any of the Staff Departments will be required to obey the orders of those placed over them, and, when indispensably necessary to the public service, to labor Sundays and at night—receiving extra pay for such extra days' work and such night work in the public shops, but not in the field.

Officers of all other Staff Departments will conform to the regulations herein established, in the employment of mechanics, laborers or other persons in the public service.

Rations included in the rates of compensation will be issued only upon the approval of the officers superintending the Departments in which the hands are employed.

By command of Maj.-Gen. BANKS.
G. NORMAN LIEBER, A. A. A. Gen.

REGISTERING VOTERS.

STATE OF LOUISIANA, EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT, }
NEW-ORLEANS, Dec. 24, 1863. }

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 39—The Register of Voters for the City of New-Orleans, and the Registers of Voters for the several parishes of the State of Louisiana, are hereby authorized to administer to all persons desirous to take it, the following oath prescribed by the Proclamation of Abraham Lincoln, President of the United States, dated Dec. 8, 1863:

OATH.

I, ——— ———, do solemnly swear, in the presence of Almighty God, that I will henceforth faithfully support, protect and defend the Constitution of the United States, and the Union of the States thereunder; and that I will, in like manner, abide by and faithfully support all acts of Congress passed during the existing rebellion, with reference to slaves, so long and so far as not repealed or modified or held void by Congress, or by decree of the Supreme Court, and that I will, in like manner, abide and faithfully support all proclamations of the President made during the existing rebellion, having reference to slaves, so long and so far as not modified or declared void by the Supreme Court. So help me God.

The oath will be administered by reading it to the person, who shall repeat it after the officer administering it, and shall then subscribe it in duplicate. One copy of the oath shall be subscribed in a book, in which it "shall be registered for permanent preservation." These books, on the fifteenth day of February, or as soon thereafter as possible, shall be returned to, and deposited in, the Executive Department of the State. The other copy of the oath subscribed by the person taking it, with the certificate added by the officer administering it, shall be given to the person taking it.

This order is in addition to those now in force from this department in relation to the registration of voters, which are hereby continued in force. The Registers of Voters will continue the registration, as before, keeping separate and distinct records of the oaths required by the President's Proclamation, and of those required to entitle persons to be registered as voters.

The oath prescribed by the Proclamation of the President is not to be administered to any persons who fall within the exceptions therein contained.

By order of Brig.-Gen. G. F. SHEPLEY,
Military Governor of Louisiana.
CHAS. C. G. THORNTON, Captain and A. A. A. Gen.

UNAUTHORIZED OCCUPATION OF HOUSES.

HEADQUARTERS, DEPARTMENT OF THE GULF, }
NEW-ORLEANS, Dec. 26, 1863. }

GENERAL ORDERS No. 87.—Complaints have been made to these Headquarters that peaceable private families are frequently annoyed by visits of unauthorized persons, officers and soldiers of the army, and civil employes of the Government. The Commanding-General directs that persons residing within the limits of this department shall not be disturbed in the possession of their houses without the exhibition of written orders from proper military authority, or from an authorized agent of the Treasury Department.

The Provost-Marshal-General is charged with the due execution of this order; and violations of its terms or spirit will be taken cognizance of by the Provost Courts.

By command of Maj. Gen. BANKS.
G. NORMAN LIEBER, Acting Asst. Adjt. General.

THE WAR ON THE MISSISSIPPI.

STEAMERS DESTROYED SINCE THE BEGINNING OF THE WAR.

Correspondence of the Cincinnati Commercial.

U. S. STEAMER GENERAL PRICE, }
MISSISSIPPI SQUADRON, }
NEW-ORLEANS, Dec. 15, 1863. }

Thinking it would be interesting to many of your readers, we inclose a list of the steamboats destroyed on the Mississippi River and its tributaries during the war, showing to what a fearful extent the commerce of the Western waters has been crippled by the war. The list is not complete, but nearly so. Of the one hundred and seventy-five destroyed, seventy-one were sunk, of which eleven have been raised, (marked *.) The remaining one hundred and four have been burned, (marked †.) The rebels still have in their possession about thirty steamers in Red and Ouachita Rivers.

Very respectfully,
D. P. BOSWORTH, Jr.,
Acting Ensign,
C. H. ST. CLAIR,
Pilot, Mississippi Squadron.

Arcadis,† Alonzo's Child,* Arrow,†Anglo-American, Arkansas,† Anglo-Saxon,† Andy Fulton,† Acacia,† Allen Collier,† Admiral,† Alice Dean,† Alvin Adams, Belle Algerine, Belle Wood, Bienville,† Baratavia†, Bettis,† Belleville, Baron De Kalb, Cairo,† Champion,† Capitol,† Carondelet,† (lake,) Carondelet,* (river,) Cincinnati,* City of Alton,* Charm,† California,† Charmer,† Cotton Plant,† Comet,† Cuba,†Colonel Lovell,† Ceres,† City of Madison,† Chancellor,† Catahoula,† Courier, Campbell,† Dew Drop,† Doctor Baty,† Diana,† Dunbar, Diurnal,† Dolly Webb,† D. F. Kenner,† Editor,† Erie,† Era No. 5.† Edward J. Gray,† Eliza G, Frank Hatch,† Forest Queen,† Frank Mumford, Ferd. Kennet,† Florida,† Fancy Natchez,† Galveston,† General Williams, Golden Age,† Gossamer,† Granite State, Grand Duke,† General Beauregard, General Price,* General Lovell, General Polk, Gross Tette, Governor Moore, Governor Mouton,† Hope,†(Yazoo,) Hope, (Red River,) Hope,† (False River,) Henry Lewis, Hannibal,* Hiawatha,* Henry Choteau,* Hercules, (gunboat,) Henry Clay, Hercules, Hart,† Indianola, Ingomar, Indian No. 2, Imperial,† Jay, J. F. Pargond,† John Walsh,† John Simonds, J. D. Swaim, Jeff. Thompson, J. P. Whitney, J. A. Cotton,† J. K. Bell,† Judah Turo, Jackson, J. M. Sharp,† John Herron, Julia Dean, J. W. Watts, Kanawha Valley,† Kentucky,† Kinsman, Lizzie Simmons, Louisiana,† Lewis Whiteman, Lone Star,† Lexington, La Fourche, Jr., Lancaster, Lady Johnson,† (old,) Laurel Hill, Mary Patterson, Marcella,† Murcle, Mary E. Keene,† Maxnolia†, Magenta,† Mosier,† Mound City,* Mobile,† Manassas,† Mississippi,† (rebel), Mississippi,† (Federal), McRae, Natchez,† North America, News Boy, Osceola, Orizaba,† Prince,† Peytona,† Prince of Wales,† Picayune No. 3, Paul Jones,† Thirty-fifth Parrallel,† Paw-Paw,* Post-Boy,† Princes,† Quarrier, Queen of the West,† Republic,† Rosalie, Resolute, R. J. Lackland,† Ruth,† star,† Southern, Star of the West, Sunny Side,† St. Mary, Sally Wood,† Scotland,† St. Crispin,† Sumter,† Sykes,† Segar,† Sam Gaty,† Telegram,† Tensas,† Tecumseh, Tigress,† Thomas Ewing,* Telegraph No. 3, T. D. Hine,† Tuscarora,† Uncle Tommy,† Union, Vicksburg,† Van Dorn,† Varona,† W. A. Andrews, Wm. M. Morrison,† Yazoo.†

The Capture of Fort Esperanza—Official Report of Col. Washburne.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, FIRST BRIGADE, }
FIFTEENTH ARMY CORPS, SALURIA, TEXAS, }
Thursday, Dec. 3, 1863. }

MAJOR: I beg leave to submit the following report of the part taken by the First Brigade, First Division Fifteenth army Corps, in the reduction of Fort Esperanza, on Matagorda Island.

At midnight, Nov. 27, I had succeeded, after much difficulty, in getting the whole of my force across Cedar Bayou, upon the Island, and marched immediately to join Gen. RANSOM, some eight miles in advance. After a few hours' rest we moved up the island, making a very hard march through the sand of 23 miles; we camped in the night and moved in the morning for this place, my brigade, by your order, moving along the beach.

About 12 o'clock we had advanced to the lighthouse, and in close proximity to the enemy's works. The main portion of the command was halted, and by your order I proceeded, with one company from each of my regiments, under the command of Capt. IRA MOORE, Thirty-third Illinois infantry, a most excellent officer, supported by the Thirty-third Illinois infantry, to reconnoitre and endeavor to find the strength and position of the enemy. Moving cautiously up the beach, we soon drove in the enemy's pickets, and our advance was safely lodged in a range of sand hills within three hundred yards of the outer work of the enemy—a heavy earthwork extending from the bay to a lagoon running from the bay on the mainland side of the island. The work was regularly laid out, about fifteen feet in thickness, and from ten to fifteen feet in height. The enemy now opened upon us from Fort Esperanza with his 128-pounder and 24-pounders, throwing shells, but with little or no effect. Having found out the position and apparent strength of the enemy, by your order I withdrew my advance.

During the night, a heavy "norther" coming on, we were unable to do much on the 28th. During the night of the 28th, Captain MCALLISTER, of the Eighth Indiana, and Captain HULL of the Ninety-ninth Illinois, both of whom had had considerable experience in that line in the rear of Vicksburgh, with a fatigue party from each of the regiments in the brigade, under cover of the darkness, dug a rifle-pit from the sand-hills on the beach, held by us the first day, and running parallel with the enemy's works, 210 yards in length, sufficient to cover a regiment. Sergeant GOODLANDER, of Company F, Eighth Indiana, with a small detail from the different regiments, was ordered to move at early dawn in advance of our rifle-pit, and endeavor to gain a position on the outer edge of the enemy's works. The Eighth Indiana was also moved out, and ordered to lay down in open prairie, in order to take advantage of any lodgment our advance might make. Capt. HULL, Ninety-ninth Illinois, volunteered, and accompanied the advance. The morning was bitterly cold, and our men suffered severely. Our advance moved up slowly and cautiously, took position on the outside of the work, (the inside being controlled by the enemy in the sand hills between the work and the main fort,) driving in a small picket force on the inside.

The force for protection of the work having been driven by the weather to the sand-hills, endeavored to rally and drive our men back, but in vain. The Eighth Indiana was immediately sent forward in small detachments, so as to avoid the fire of the heavy guns of the fort, and gained a safe footing in our rifle-pits and on the enemy's works. Finding ourselves more successful than I had dared to hope, I returned to the main portion of my brigade and immediately sent Col. LIPPINCOTT with his regiment to the front, with instructions to take command of the forces in front, and to advance as far as prudence would allow, and to get, if possible, a position where our artillery might be made effective. Col. LIPPINCOTT moved promptly with his command, and I soon had the pleasure of hearing from him that he had secured a good position for our artillery.

Adjutant W. W. ZENER, of the Eighteenth Indiana, now on my Staff, was ordered to bring up two pieces of the Seventh Michigan battery, under command of Lieut. STILLMAN, which he accomplished with dispatch. The pieces were brought up and placed in battery under a heavy fire from the fort—fortunately not very accurate; and we soon had the pleasure of seeing our shells dropping in the enemy's stronghold, and driving them from their guns. Col. LIPPINCOTT had very judiciously disposed of the two regiments, and had previously to the arrival of the artillery advanced several companies into the sand hills in our front, driving back the enemy nearer his main work. I also ordered possession to be taken of an old work several hundred yards in our front, and to the left and rear of the fort, which was gallantly done by Capt. MCALLISTER, Eighth Indiana, with his company. This enabled us to move our advance on the right nearer the fort.

In the meantime I had ordered Lieut.-Col. CHARLES, Eighteenth Indiana, to move his regiment to the support of the Eighth Indiana and Thirty third Illinois, in doing which he passed under a heavy fire from the fort, but fortunately for him the enemy threw nothing but solid shot, which from their size were easily avoided, and he gained his position with the loss of but one man. Night coming on, found four companies of the Eighth Indiana and five companies of the Thirty-third Illinois in the sand hills near the fort, (725 yards, as shown by measurement;) two companies of the Eighth Indiana held the old work to our front. The balance of these three regiments held the outside of the new work. The men, although the night was raw and cold, remained upon the field and in their position. A fatigue party was detailed from the reserve regiments and proceeded to move the four pieces of the Seventh Michigan battery to the work occupied by our troops and by filling the ditch placed them in a fine position. I also ordered a portion of the Eighteenth Indiana, under Capt. LOWAS, to reinforce Capt. MCALLISTER, as I believed that to be an important point. The Ninety-ninth Illinois and Twenty-third Iowa, who were held in reserve, were to move at daylight to our position, while a general advance of the whole brigade was to take place. These arrangements were hardly completed, when, about 12 o'clock, an explosion of gunpowder in the fort warned us that the enemy were on the move. I immediately ordered an advance of the skirmishers, and found that the enemy had fled, leaving behind him his stores and ammunition, and the personal baggage of the officers. They had, however, piled a large quantity of cotton around the different magazines, after having scattered gunpowder in different places. The advance pushed on to the ferry, but were too late; the enemy had cut the rope, allowing the floating bridge to swing around upon the shore. They had also attempted to destroy it by piling cotton upon it and firing it: but our men were too close and put out the fire. Six of the eight men left by the enemy to fire the trains were captured at daylight. I moved a small force across to McHenry Island, and took possession of a small earthwork containing one 24-pounder, considerable ammunition and some garrison equipage. In Fort Esperanza we found one 128-pounder Columbiad and seven 24-pounder siege guns. Two of the magazines were saved. Considerable camp and garrison equipage was in the fort, but owing to the danger from the explosions we failed to save it. My total loss was one man killed and ten wounded, among the latter Lieut. GEO. H. FIFER, Acting Aid-de-Camp, a gallant and brave soldier, who fell severely wounded during our first reconnoissance. My officers and men behaved gallantly, showing that they had lost none of that coolness and bravery evinced by them upon the battle-fields of Pea Ridge, Fredericktown, Port Hudson, Champion Hills, Black River Bridge, Vicksburgh and Jackson. Col. LIPPINCOTT, of the Thirty-third Illinois, rendered me great assistance in the advance upon the enemy's works, and displayed both courage and judgment.

Maj. KINNEY, of the Eighth Indiana, though lately promoted to the position, proved by his courage and coolness that he was well worthy of the same.

Lieut.-Col. CHARLES, of the Eighteenth Indiana, brought his regiment in fine style and good order, through a heavy fire from the fort to the support of the two advance regiments.

Col. BAILEY, of the Ninety-ninth Illinois, and Col. GLASGOW, of the Twenty-third Iowa, who were held in reserve, were both anxious to be removed to the front, and, more by accident than anything else, were thrown in the reserve. Both regiments, however, had already established their reputations as veterans, on the well-fought fields of Mississippi.

I am greatly indebted to Capt. MCALLISTER, Eighth Indiana, and Capt. HULL, Ninety-ninth Illinois, for their assistance in the digging and laying out of the rifle-pits and placing of the battery.

Lieut. STILLMAN, commanding the Seventh Michigan battery, rendered very efficient aid in discomfiting the enemy. Two guns of his battery were worked right under the fire of the guns of the fort.

My own Staff discharged their duty with fidelity, courage and ability. They are as follows:

Maj. J. H. Elliott, Thirty-third Illinois, Inspector-General and Chief of Staff.

Capt. S. H. Dunbar, Eighth Indiana, A. A. A. General.

Capt. JOHN RUESS, Eighth Indiana, A. A. C. S.

Lieut. and Adjt. W. W. Zener, Eighteenth Indiana, A. D. C. and Provost-Marshal.

Lieut.-Geo. H. Fifer, Thirty-third Illinois, A. D. C.

Lieut. J. G. Sever, Seventy-ninth Illinois, ordnance officer.

Maj. Ledlie, Ninety-ninth Illinois, senior surgeon, was detailed on operating board.

I would also make especial mention of Sergt. JOHN GOODLANDER, of Company F, Eighth Indiana, and private ADDISON HALLENBECK, Company K, Eighteenth Indiana, who were the first to mount the enemy's works the morning of the 29th. In mentioning the above I would not have it understood that any of my officers or men failed to do their duty—and their whole duty.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
H. D. WASHBURNE,
Colonel commanding First brigade, First division, &c.

Re-enlistments.

AN APPEAL FROM MAJ.-GEN. BIRNEY.

HEADQUARTERS FIRST DIVISION, THIRD CORPS, }
January 2, 1864. }

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 1.—The Major-General commanding the division appeals to the officers and men, and hopes that all will volunteer to remain until the war for the Union is closed. So far this division has led all others in the army of the United States in reënlistments, evincing its desire to stand by "*the colors*," and the commander wishes to have the honor of saying that all the regimental organizations led by him during the past campaigns remained unbroken until the last armed rebel disappeared.

He promises that he will see that the furloughs and bounties promised by the various orders are given, and hopes that every officer and man wearing the "Kearny patch" will at once volunteer for the war.

The Division Commissary of Musters will be ready to muster in all applicants before the 5th inst.

The Major-General commanding the division knows that he has never called on the division without a hearty and cheering response, and is confident of it in this case. This order will be read to each regiment of the command at dress parade this day.

(Signed) D. B. BIRNEY,
Major-General, commanding division.
Official: J. BARCLAY FASSITT, Capt. and A. A. A. G.

The Chesapeake Case.

EXAMINATION OF THE PIRATES AT ST. JOHNS, N. B.

Correspondence of the Boston Journal.

ST. JOHNS, N. B., Jan. 4, 1864.

The examination of COLLINS, MCKENNEY and SHELY, arrested under charge of piracy and murder on board the *Chesapeake*, came on here to-day before H. T. GILBERT, Esq., J. P. The police-office was densely crowded. It is a small building, capable at most of holding three hundred persons. The prisoners were placed in the dock. Messrs. WETMORE and TUCK appeared for the prosecution, and Messrs. GRAY and WELDON for the prisoners.

After Mr. WETMORE had briefly opened the case, Mr. GRAY made several legal points. He argued first, that the magistrate had no jurisdiction, there being a special Court to try cases of piracy, provided by the imperial statutes. Second, that no sufficient acts of piracy were charged in the warrant to justify the present proceedings; and third, that the warrant was bad, inasmuch as it combined offenses which could only be tried under different courts and jurisdictions. Mr. WETMORE replied, meeting points by quoting the Ashburton treaty, and suggesting that if Mr. GRAY had any legal points they could be argued again, evidence being taken now. The magistrate decided to proceed, reserving counsel's points for consideration.

Capt. WILLET was examined at great length. Much time was lost in taking down the evidence, which was written out at length. Witness identified the prisoners as of the party who seized the *Chesapeake*, but could not charge special acts on some of them. The evidence agrees substantially with that published. It was evident from the cross-examination that counsel for defence will reserve the point that the offence was not committed within the jurisdiction of the United States, but on the high seas; but this is a question of law. It appeared also that whether for effect or otherwise, the order of BRAINE will be relied upon, and probably the original produced.

An attempt was made to get the witness to say that the parties taken by the Federal authorities, in connection with the capture of the *Caleb Cushing*, had never been treated as pirates, but this failed.

After the depositions were read over to witness, who seemed anxious to give his testimony fairly, the case was adjourned until Wednesday. The examination of the other witnesses will then be proceeded with.

The case excited the deepest interest, many sympathizing with the prisoners, and not a few (and these of the most respectable persons) with the prosecution.

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SIR JOHN BOWRING ON THE WAR.—The Philadelphia *Press* publishes the following extract from a late letter of the distinguished scholar, statesman and diplomatist, Sir JOHN BOWRING, addressed to Dr. WILLIAM SHAKSWOOD. Sir JOHN BOWRING was formerly Minister to China and Governor of Hong Kong, and is at present accredited Hawaiian Minister Plenipotentiary to London and Paris:

"We all pray, with anxious solicitude, for the termination of your fearful domestic strifes. In the propriety of our absolute abstention I think all reasonable persons agree. There are and must be great differences of opinion as to what the solution of this involved and direful question will be, but I am sure the voice of honest England will be that prosperity may be extended, and peace be restored to the distracted social elements among you. There will be much erroneous judement growing out of imperfect knowledge, and mutual misunderstanding the results of the *locus standi* of each; but England's heart is sound toward you, and England's true interests are associated with your well-being and doing."

THE GREAT SNOW-STORM.

The Western journals come to us filled with accounts of the terrible storm of snow and wind which swept over the greater part of the Northwestern States on Thursday and Friday—the last day of December and the first of January—completely blockading travel by the railways, and causing immense suffering in city and country. There has been nothing approaching it in severity since the memorable Winter of 1855. We take from the Chicago *Times* of Jan. 4 an account of the experiences of the passengers on a railway train, which was snow-bound on the prairie:

"The train on the Michigan Central Railroad, LEVI CARTER, conductor, which was due here at 10½ o'clock on Thursday evening, proceeded with great difficulty until within about four hundred yards of the Michigan Southern Crossing, some seven miles out. There, at 6 o'clock on Friday morning, almost eight hours behind time, the train plunged into an immense drift, which lay directly across its way. The powerful locomotive pushed ahead right royally at first, scattering the snow in glittering clouds upon each side as easily as a ship would part the foam. Further and still further into the drift, and slower and still slower went the engine. It labored and struggled as if loth to give up the contest, but finally stopped. The faithful engineer then sought to back the locomotive, but the powerful engine was now within the grasp of a giant, in whose hands its strength was but that of a child. The wind, white freight glittering in the frosty air, swept around the ill-fated train and brought it closer within the chilling coils of the merciless drift. The train, far from assistance, was imprisoned in the snow!

There were over a hundred passengers on board, many of them being women and children, with but a short supply of wood.

Death, under any circumstances, is so terrible, that the strongest and bravest pale when they realize that they are in its presence. But when men are compelled to sit and watch its coming and note the flight of each moment which brings its icy touch nearer and nearer, there is something in it so grandly terrible that, while there is the faintest hope of averting it, the weakest arms are nerved with giant's strength, and the faintest hearts with bravest resolution. One by one out into the blinding storm went those who were able, and, digging down through the snow-drifts which were piled over them, they tore up the fences near the road and brought them as fuel to the cars. Here was something which would provide warmth until they could be rescued from their perilous situation. The boards were broken up, and the fast-cooling stoves soon gave out a generous heat. The wind as it rushed along drew the flames up through the kindling pine until stove and pipe were heated red. Then a new peril broke upon the passengers. The roof of the car took fire from the heated pipe, and as the wind caught the flames, they roared and crackled and curled downward toward the passengers as if in mockery of their misery. The snow was banked almost to the bottom of the car, and to separate it from the others by hand was an utter impossibility. If the flames once got fairly under way, the whole train would be consumed and its living freight turned out upon that bleak prairie without shelter, and at the utter mercy of the pitiless storm. That were certain death. In this moment of peril the women vied with the men in their efforts for the common safety. More than one fair hand now eagerly grasped the glittering snow, a moment before regarded as their greatest peril, and hailed it as the angel of their deliverance. Some of the men, with hatchets, mounted the top of the car and commenced cutting away the portion on fire—other men and the brave women carried snow and dashed it from the inside and from the outside upon the burning roof. At first it seemed as if all hope were vain, but energies were not slackened or hearts unnerved. The contest was brief and desperate, and resulted in the flames being quelled. The wind and snow came rushing in at the great aperture in the roof, and the car was no longer tenable. All the passengers then withdrew to the next one. Proper precautions were taken against a similar disaster there. But the ashes had been unfortunately entirely removed from the stove in this car, and, when anticipating no danger, the floor of the car took fire from the bottom of the stove. It was much easier extinguished than the other, but not without considerable labor, or until a large portion of the floor had been cut away, and that car thus rendered untenable also.

The passengers of the entire train were now huddled together in the only remaining car. It was now nearly 9 o'clock the afternoon and there were no signs of the storm abating or of any deliverance reaching them. A sense that terrible sufferings and a horrible death awaited them in the hours of darkness, now not far removed, was gaining ground among the passengers, and one by one they suffered themselves to drift into that state of listless indifference which ever characterizes men who are calmly awaiting a fate they cannot avert.

Sudaenly, however, they were startled into new hope by the arrival of a train of the Michigan Southern Railroad. It stopped at the crossing of the two roads, only some four hundred yards distant, and its conductor signified his readiness to take the passengers of the Michigan Central train into the city. The work of transferring them was immediately commenced, the engine in the meantime moving the train slowly backward and forward to prevent the snow from drifting around and under it. The distance between the two trains, nearly four hundred yards, was filled with a drift nearly ten feet in depth, and to make the passage from one to the other was a work of great labor and difficulty. The storm was at its height and the cold so intense that the faces of the women and children were frozen almost as soon as they came in contact with the wind—turning white as instantly as if they had been plunged in boiling water. Scarcely any one made the passage from one train to the other without being badly frost-bitten, many quite seriously.

The women and children had to be carried over to the other train, and not a few men who essayed it were compelled to demand assistance. This was cheerfully rendered by volunteers from among the Michigan Southern passengers. All were gotten over, save an old lady and a Mrs. TURNER, residing in Iowa, an officer and his lady, and two wounded soldiers, one of whom was the son of the old lady just mentioned. Mrs. TURNER's child had been taken to the other train by the conductor, and she was being assisted over through the snow by a Mr. WM. COWSCROCK, residing in Minnesota, when the train left. Mr. COWSCROCK was one of the noble-hearted passengers from the Michigan Southern train, who volunteered to help the women and children over the snow-drift, and relates that when midway between the trains he found a little boy stuck to the arm pits in the snow, and crying bitterly. He took him to the train, where the little fellow informed him, between his sobs, that his mother had started with him from the other train. Rightly conjecturing that she must be somewhere near where he found the boy, he made his way back, as near as possible, to the same spot. The wind was filled with particles of snow which prevented any object from being visible at any great distance, and the snow, driven by the wind into the clothing, prevented a person from being discernible unless moving. Near this spot he found the mother, who was struggling along upon her hands and feet, feeling in the snow for her boy from whom she had become separated by falling down. She was so nearly exhausted that she could not have traveled many yards further, and would undoubtedly have perished but for Mr. COWSCROCK's timely assistance.

The rescued passengers, immediately upon their arrival at the Michigan Southern train, were made as comfortable as possible. Those who were frozen were promptly attended to, ladies tearing up their handkerchiefs and scarfs to rub the frozen feet, faces and hands of their unfortunate fellow-travelers. Some wedding-cake in the express car, the only food upon the train, was confiscated to the necessities of the occasion, and distributed among them.

This train with its double load now started for Chicago, but after advancing three miles, encountered a drift which effectually stopped it. The position of the 200 passengers was now extremely perilous. All hope of getting through with their train, or of a train coming to their assistance was impossible, and Mr. J. E. CURTIS, the conductor, Mr. J. M. BARNES, of Goshen, Indiana, and the checkman of PARNLEE's omnibus line, started on foot to the city to procure sleighs to bring them in. With great toil and suffering these brave men finally reached the Tremont House. There was a large crowd in the rotunda, reading rooms and parlors of the Tremont House at 4 o'clock that afternoon. All had had a splendid dinner, and as they listened to the storm which was howling fiercely outside, they experienced an extremely *comfortable* sensation in those well-warmed halls. The door opened and two figures entered, closely muffled, with their clothing matted and frozen with the snow which the fierce wind had driven into its texture. They were CURTIS and BARNES, who had just arrived, nearly exhausted with the labors of their perilous journey. A word or two was sufficient—from lip to lip they passed—"*two hundred men, women and children freezing to death within four miles of Chicago.*" The eloquent voice of humanity within him made the necessary appeal to every man's heart. The storm now had no terrors which all were not prepared to brave. From the Tremont, the tidings were carried to the Sherman, and from there to the other hotels and to the railroad offices and livery stables. Preparations for a rescue were quickly made. The proprietors of the Tremont, Sherman and Briggs Houses each put up several baskets of provisions to be taken to the sufferers and liquors were also provided, and blankets and buffalo robes without end. And in less than an hour after the first intelligence was received, sleighs loaded with comforts were on the way.

Few of the rescuing party, however, were able to reach the trains. The first sleighs—two double sleighs and one four-horse sleigh—were accompanied by Mr. BARNES, the only one who could guide them to the spot, Mr. CURTIS having been too badly frozen to return. The other sleighs followed as fast as two or three were collected, though without guides, and bewildered and half frozen, ignorant alike of the direction of the train they were seeking and of the direction in which they should return, they drove around for from one to four hours, and finally made their way back to town, nearly every person having been frost-bitten. It was a terrible night. It would have been fearful even had the winds and shifting snows not been among its terrors, and the only wonder is that all who endeavored to reach the train were not frozen to death in making the attempt.

Of all the sleighs which left the city, only two succeeded in reaching the train. They had the advantage of Mr. BARNES' knowledge of the locality of the train, and also at least half an hour more daylight. Their experience was not very pleasant, however. The four-horse sleigh broke down near the Driving Park, south of Ulrich's. Seven champagne-baskets of provisions and a quantity of blankets and buffalo robes were loaded into the two-horse sleighs, and Mr. BARNES, GEORGE TARBADOX, and W. D. MANCHESTER, the Assistant Ticket Agent of the Michigan Southern Railroad, kept on in hopes of reaching the train. They too were soon lost in the storm and unable to tell certainly in what direction they were traveling. They were finally on the point of turning around toward what they supposed was the city in hopes of making their way back. It was finally arranged that Mr. BARNES should go ahead on foot as far as he deemed prudent, and if he could see nothing of the train they would return. After going some six hundred yards he saw the lights of the train glittering just ahead of him, when, having made his way back to the sleighs, he piloted them through.

The passengers upon the train were fairly delirious with joy at the arrival of these sleighs, freighted with refreshments and blankets. Mr. BARNES had a large bonfire kindled from the fence as a beacon by which the other sleighs might know the locality of the train.

It would not do to leave the horses exposed to the storm, and, after a hasty meal, Mr. MANCHESTER, Mr. BARNES and Mr. TARBADOX prepared to return to the city. Mrs. GERRIT, of Aurora, Ill.; Mr. MANSH, ticket agent at Adrian, Mich., and his lady; EDWARD MCQUIN, of this city, and FRANK PIERCE, of Goshen, Ind., took seats in the sleigh to accompany them. They left the train at precisely 8 o'clock on Friday evening, not doubting for a single instant their ability to reach the city. After traveling a short time, and having lost sight of the beacon light of the train, they became conscious that they were lost. No one could tell in what direction to go—no one could guess. They were in the midst of an illimitable labyrinth of snow drifts running in every direction, and some of them of great depth. In the

The New-York Times.

NEW-YORK, SUNDAY, JANUARY 10, 1864.

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NEWS OF THE DAY.

THE REBELLION.

Dispatches from Cumberland, Md., give full details of the late attempted raid in West Virginia by the rebels under Gen. EARLY. Their force was three brigades of cavalry, with which they were to attempt to cut the Baltimore Railroad, between Martinsburgh and New-Creek, and capture such forces as were found on the route. But they learned that our force at Martinsburgh were strong, and under AVERILL; and they abandoned the attempt. They then set off to capture a small garrison at Petersburgh, Hardy county, and failed in that, after which they beat a retreat. Our cavalry pursued some distance, and picked up many stragglers and deserters, who gladly take the oath, and are released.

The case of the *Chesapeake* was brought up in the Admiralty Court at Halifax yesterday. Judge STUART said he was of the opinion that the vessel should be given up to her owners. The counsel for the rebels asked him to contemplate the probability of a rebel application for the vessel, which the Judge said he would not do. The Advocate-General for the Crown also expressed his opinion that the vessel should be given up to the owners. The Court adjourned to the 13th.

All the regiments of Gen. GEARY'S division, under Gen. HOOKER, have re-enlisted as veteran volunteers to serve for three years longer. They are representatives of New-York, Ohio and Pennsylvania. The Sixtieth New-York, and Twenty-ninth and Sixty-sixth Ohio, and Twenty ninth Pennsylvania, left in a body for home a few days ago, to avail themselves of thirty days' furlough. The Twenty-eighth Pennsylvania (Gen. GEARY'S old regiment) and the One Hundred and Eleventh Pennsylvania, left Chattanooga, on the 31st ult., the former to repor, in Philadelphia. KNAPP'S Pennsylvania battery and the One Hundred and Forty-seventh Pennsylvania, Fifth Ohio, Seventy-eighth and One Hundred and Second New-York started for home, during last week, and others will follow.

Gov. THOMAS has issued an order on the 8th inst., assessing $30,000 on rebel sympathizers living within ten miles of the recent murder of three soldiers near Mulberry, Tennessee—the money to be divided between the families of the soldiers killed.

Two hundred and forty-four volunteers were sent on to regiments from the camp in New-Haven, Thursday night.

GENERAL NEWS.

The seven regiments of the Fourth division 15th Army corps, now near Chattanooga, within the limits of reenlisting, namely : Seventyeth, Seventh, Fifty-third and Forty-sixth Ohio, Sixth Iowa, Seventy-sixth, Twentieth and Forty-eighth Illinois, have reenlisted almost to a man, and will be reorganized.

General business was less active on Saturday. Export operations in Breadstuffs were checked by the rise in freights. Prices of Flour and Wheat, however, were kept up well. A fair trade was reported in Sugar, Tallow, Cotton, Hay, Hops, Leather, Wool, Codfish, New Orleans Molasses, and the principal kinds of Provisions. Freights were less active, with 532 vessels of all classes in port.

Seymour as a State Reproach.

The annual messages of the Governors of Pennsylvania, Ohio, Massachusetts and the other States whose Legislatures convene in the beginning of the year, are coming to hand, all glowing with enthusiasm for the National cause, all eloquent with generous sentiment, high counsel and earnest appeal. The contrast they present in language and in spirit to the carping, churlish, cold, narrow, malignant, soulless production which has just come from Gov. SEYMOUR, is enough to make every citizen of this State hang his head for shame. What has New-York done that it should be reserved for her alone, of all the loyal States, to have her archives contaminated with these records of official infamy? Why should that State which carries the proudest of all names, the "Empire State," be singled out for this denunciation? Why should the escutcheon, which bears the loftiest of all devices, "Excelsior," be the one of all to incur this odious stain?

In the first eighteen months of the rebellion, down to that ill-starred first of January, when HORATIO SEYMOUR took the Executive chair, there was no State in the Union which had more signalized itself for devotion to the Republic, in this mortal struggle with treason, than New-York. She, in fact, was the first State to put on record her solemn determination to shrink from no effort or sacrifice for the preservation of the Union. Three months before Sumter was fired upon, while the whole land was staggering with dismay and bewilderment, her Legislature, by a vote of 117 to 2 in the House, and 28 to 1 in the Senate, proclaimed to the world that Secession would not and should not be peacefully endured, and tendered to the President of the United States—the craven BUCHANAN—whatever aid and money might be required to enable him to enforce the laws and uphold the authority of the Government. Our delegation in Congress, too—the entire thirty-three—so well understood the spirit of their constituents, that without party distinction, they voted in one solid phalanx for every proposition looking to the maintenance of the federal authority.

And these declarations of purpose our people made good when the time for action came. The echoes of Sumter's guns had hardly died away, before they gathered in the largest meetings ever seen on this continent to assure the Government of their readiness to stand by it to the last extremity. They at once supplied the empty treasury with money to meet every call upon it, and for the first year they furnished more than nine-tenths of the national funds. They raised regiments, equipped them and sent them to the war, in larger numbers and with greater rapidity than any other State found it possible to do. All classes and all conditions partook of the patriotic fire. Party ties had no restraining influence; party prejudices disappeared like the mist, in the all-pervading indignation against the armed enemies of the Union. Our clergy lifted up their voices, almost as one man, for the vindication of the authority of the higher power which "beareth not the sword in vain." Our lawyers stood like a rock for the supremacy of the law. Our merchants, though staggering under losses of hundreds of millions—losses at least twice greater than the losses of all the rest of the North combined—yet remained sound to the core in their devotion to the Union, and were ready to give their last dollar to the cause. Our popular masses all through the State raised the old flag, and vowed before high heaven to pour out their blood like water, before a star in it should be erased.

And yet, in spite of all this grand, unmatched devotion, the State is compelled to endure the scandalous distinction of such manifestoes from its highest official station as has once and again shocked the loyal heart of the country. He who is presumed to be the organ of the State's temper and will, emits sentiments, in his official capacity, that our children will recall only with amazement and shame. But there is no help for it. Our people, in an hour of delusion, trusted the patriotic protestations of HORATIO SEYMOUR, and committed the honor of the State to his keeping. They have since renounced and abjured him, but the man is unchanged. He will remain false and faithless to the end of his official lease, and we must submit to the reproach, finding our only consolation in the fact that he will sink beyond resurrection the instant he quits his place, and in the hope that what we have suffered by him will be a standing warning to be less credulous and more vigilant in respect to all such pretenders in the future.

Woman's Wrongs—The True Mode of Righting Them.

The English public has been struck with surprise, by the recent presentation of *ninety* female competitors for the new popular University Examinations in London. These examinations are designed to raise the educational standard of the classes outside of the Universities, by applying to them University-tests, or examinations, and certain "Degrees" and "Honors" are given for proficiency in common branches of Education, as judged of by accomplished scholars. Hitherto, they have been open only to the young men and lads of the middle classes; now, in that practical method of progress which characterizes England, the examiners have quietly opened them to women. Nothing has been said about "Woman's Rights," no public meetings have been held to advocate the female right to vote or to hold office; but by a simple and just educational measure, more has been practically accomplished for the elevation of women, than has been done here by all the frothy public meetings of the last half century.

For the highest of all rights to a woman, and the one whose enjoyment would remove innumerable evils from both upper and lower classes, is the *right to education*. Among the lower classes the oppression practiced upon women is, in nine cases out of ten, the result of their own ignorance and incapacity. It is the "poor" seamstresses who are poor; it is women who sew because they are too unskilled and untrained to do anything else, or even to do that well, who are "trampled on" by employers. The City is crowded with women and girls who really have not the education and training to be worth even their cheap board to the world, except as very common servants, and who yet try to succeed in crowded trades. The natural consequence is, that they are continually shoved out in the eager strife of competition, and either suffer from hunger, or resort to criminal practices for a living. It is a notorious fact, that a "first-rate" seamstress, or clear-starcher, or laundress, is an exceedingly rare article, and that when she is found, she receives very handsome wages. No well-skilled, competent, intelligent woman, need long remain in poverty in New-York. Under the high wages of all male labor, she, with equally skillful labor, and requiring smaller pay, could soon drive out her masculine competitors, as she has done in some branches in European cities.

But the truth is, very few women are so trained that in any capacity in which men work—whether it be as waiters, shop-tenders, book-keepers, or in similar occupations—they are as valuable as men. They lack the method, shrewdness, experience; in fine, the education which the other sex have enjoyed. Who doubts that Mr. STEWART would employ girls at his counters, if he found them worth as much? What library, or shop, or society, would not have female assistants, if they were discovered to be as valuable?

Business competition knows no prejudice of race, color or sex. It always works for profit alone. Now, these radical defects of the sex, can only be remedied by more thorough and skillful education. Such instructions as the Cooper Art-school and Lectures do more in righting the wrongs of mankind, in our judgment, than all the declamations and lamentations at public and private meetings for a generation past. Give women the same opportunities of improvement in the direction of their own faculties as men, and we need not fear that they will fall much behind them in successful labor. For it must be remembered that education—even if it be only in book-learning—makes every boy or girl of more pecuniary value to the world. The habits gained in a school of the best class, are such habits as command a price in the market of labor: they are punctuality, order, clearness, discipline, the power of concentrating the mind on the work in hand, or of turning it to various subjects—and such qualities are of value everywhere—then the handwriting, quickness with numbers, knowledge of book-keeping, a good English style or a power of translating or giving abstracts of papers—these are all marketable acquirements, and the girl who has them need not be a "poor seamstress," or an "oppressed shirt-sewer." Her labor will command a fair price in any branch of life. But it is precisely these common, simple school acquirements in which the mass of poor women, or even the women of the middle classes, are deficient. The natural consequence is that they cannot compete with the labor of the men, and are forced down to the worst paid employments. The English are meeting the similar evil in the higher classes, in their own way, by education.

Let us here also right woman's wrongs, by giving her faculties in every direction the best possible training of which we are capable.

The Chesapeake Murderers.

To the Editor of the New-York Times :

NEW-YORK, Thursday, Jan. 7, 1864.

With some surprise I find in your paper of this morning your acquiescence in the doctrine of the Toronto *Globe*, that if those who seized the *Chesapeake* "acted under a duly authorized commission from JEFFERSON DAVIS, they cannot be treated as pirates." You say, the question "for the British authorities is simply and solely whether the seizure of the vessel was or was not made under the orders and personal direction of an officer commissioned by JEFFERSON DAVIS. * * If it was, we have, of course, nothing to say, except what we have always said by way of protest against the concession of belligerent rights," &c. I have heard the same view put forth in private conversation, but have never before seen it advanced in any journal. It appears to me to be entirely wrong. I think the true view is, that these persons are justiciable by the municipal criminal law of the United States precisely as though the thing had been done in time of peace, and that if the British Government would have been bound, in that case to deliver them up to our Government, they are equally bound to do it as the matter stands. I admit that those we call rebels are to be treated as belligerents in respect to ourselves, by us and by neutrals. It is not enough that such acts be committed by persons, one or more of whom may have a commission from the head of the rebel Confederacy to carry on acts of war, by sea or by land. I take the ground that to put persons committing such acts in the position of privateers, or persons in the military or naval service of our belligerent enemy, they must have a ship or vessel of some kind as the basis from which to operate, and, in technical phrase, be "sailing under the flag" of the belligerent—that is, publicly displaying the flag, in distinction from having an intention or desire to do so, and this *status* they must have before their acts can become belligerent acts in view of international law. Before a ship of one belligerent can be seized by persons in the military or naval service of the other, there must be a *ship or vessel* commissioned by that other, which may be either a public or private ship, to which such persons belong as officers and crew. In the language of the law writers, *the ship* sails under the commission. A privateer is a "ship commissioned, furnished with letters-of-marque, (*muni de commission lettres-de-marque*. In treaties stipulating that the subjects of a State shall not, as neutrals, take commissions from belligerents, the phrase is, that they "shall not take commissions to arm vessels-of-war and sail under their flag." (See I. PHILLIMORE'S International Law, Part, 3, ch. 20.) Of course, boats may be sent out from the commissioned vessel. It is an entirely new idea, without any foundation in international law, that persons with a commission hidden in their pockets or trunks, when they get out at sea are acting under that commission and protected by the laws of war, so that they may, as part of the armed force of the belligerent, commit acts which otherwise would be murder and robbery. The doctrine, if received, would upset the whole law of war hitherto received. No Power in the world must be more ready to repudiate it than the British Government.

Whether these persons are punishable by the British Government as pirates, is a different question. I think not; that they are not pirates *jure gentium*, nor, as such, justiciable everywhere. But they are pirates by statute—that is, the statutes of the United States punishing robbery and murder on the high seas as piracy, are applicable to them. (See WHEATON'S International Law, Part, 2, ch. 2, sec. 15.)

J. C. H.

The light in which the British authorities are bound to regard the *Chesapeake* is one thing, and the light in which they are bound to regard the crew is another. The United States statutes touching murder and piracy are all applicable to SEMMES, MAFFIT, and every other Confederate rover now afloat; but if we asked for their delivery to us in London, we should be laughed at, the Extradition Treaty to the contrary notwithstanding. The Courts at Halifax may surrender the ship as an illegal capture, and yet refuse to treat the men as criminals. The distinction between them exists, and has been frequently recognized, as "J. C. H." will admit. Carrying on war in ships without any commission whatever does not, in the opinion of very good authorities—KENT amongst the number—make the crew pirates, though it makes their captures illegal.

Whether a body of men may lawfully embark in an enemy's ship, in an enemy's port, and rise and capture it at sea, it is impossible to decide with perfect accuracy by the aid of precedents, because, if we are not mistaken, this case of the *Chesapeake* is the first that has arisen. But all the analogies seem to afford it sufficient color of legality to warrant a neutral in refusing to treat the persons engaged in such an enterprise as pirates, and consequently refusing either to hold them or deliver them for punishment. In fact we do not know of any principle of public law that would warrant an Admiralty Court in taking any other view of it. The question does not affect either the police of the seas or the rights of neutrals. It is the business of a belligerent to see that his ports are not invaded by bands of the enemy's forces, and his ships boarded by them at the wharf for hostile purposes; and if he fails in this duty, owing either to defects in his municipal police regulations, or from any other cause, it is hardly the business of neutral Courts to make amends for his remissness by catching the culprits for him, and delivering them to him. The reasons of law which forbid unauthorized cruising in ships do not, it seems to us, apply to a case of this kind. A cruiser which is not subject to proper control and responsibility, may become a terror and nuisance to neutrals as well as belligerents, and neutrals are, therefore, as much interested as belligerents in hunting it down.

As to the necessity for being in possession of one ship, in order to be able lawfully to capture another, is it not a seeming necessity created by long usage, rather than a real one? It is well known that during the last war, French rowboats carried on operations along the whole coast of the channel against English ships, and were often captured, but the crews were never hanged. The base of operations was on land, and they were not detached from any man-of-war, and yet it is difficult to believe that they were for that reason precluded from the use of any of the ordinary stratagems or disguises, in order to effect an entrance to an enemy's vessel which they found themselves unable to catch in any other way. Privateers of this kind regularly issued from Calais and Dunkirk in pursuit of becalmed and slow sailing vessels, although they were hardly ever in a condition to keep the sea for twenty-four hours.

Whatever "J. C. H." says on a point of this sort is entitled to great respect, but we doubt if the legal duty of the British in this matter, as regards the men, is as well settled by any means, as he seems to think it, or that there is no question whatever that the latter stand in precisely the same position as if there were no war raging.

Another Napoleonic Defeat.

Has the star of the Third NAPOLEON culminated, that all his latter-day schemes, devices, and enterprises have been attended with failure? During the first decade of his public career, everything he undertook prospered. He gained the Presidency and the Empire; he was victorious in the Crimea and in Italy; and even the legerdemain by which he aimed to filch Savoy and Nice from King VICTOR, met with success. But, for some time, his good fortune has departed from him. In peace and in war, at home and abroad, he has been alike unlucky. His plot for the establishment of monarchy in Mexico, has already broken down; his attempt to intimidate Russia, has proved abortive; his efforts to induce the Great Powers to sanction the convocation of a Congress, have been in vain; while, within the past twelve months he has experienced three rebuffs from France, more ominous than all. A French parliamentary opposition has been formed in defiance of him, and Paris, which he has done so much to embellish, has twice cast her vote against the candidates of his choice, once in May last, at the general election, and again, the other day, in favor of M. PELLETAN. M. PELLETAN, a distinguished Liberal, had been originally returned for the Ninth District of the Seine, but the satellites of the Government, in the Second Chamber, wishing to get rid of so formidable an opponent, availed themselves of some technical irregularity in the proceedings, and pronounced M. PELLETAN'S election void. That gentleman, nowise disheartened by this decision, determined to renew the contest with his antagonist, though the latter was supported by the Government, the official press, and the Parisian municipalties, who left no artifice untried that could possibly tend to prevent the reëlection of the obnoxious ex-deputy. The forty mayors and sub-mayors of the metropolis entered the lists against him, and issued a manifesto in which the private and public conduct of PELLETAN was painted in the blackest colors. "He was an unnatural father, a bad citizen, and a bad man. He had attacked and calumniated that which all true Frenchmen most love and venerate—the glory and the grandeur of our country; the military services and renown of our Emperor; the combats and the victories of Italy have found no favor with him. Nay, he has even dared to assail and insult our national song-writer, the popular and immortal BERANGER." Now, could it be imagined that the Parisians of the ninth district would be so stupid as to give this bad citizen, bad critic, and bad man the victory over the immaculate PICARD, who "was bountiful to all, looked up to with affection and respect, a model of civic virtue, a liberal in politics, and devoted at once to the empire and the principles of 89?" But, alas! when was mere merit a guarantee of success? And such was the perversity of the electors in question, that they actually re-chose the wicked M. PELLETAN, by a majority of near six thousand votes, to represent them, rather than the amiable nonentity whom the Government and the municipalities patronized. This second great defeat of the Executive in the metropolis is a much more serious disaster than the Emperor's failure to effect the convocation of a Congress. For, with France blindly devoted to him, he might defy and contemn the jealousy of European potentates, but if Frenchmen continue to grow lukewarm and indifferent, if not positively antagonistic, to his cause and rule, what security can he have for the stability of his throne, or the maintenance of his prestige? NAPOLEON has, in fact, got himself into another awkward dilemma. He has gone too far, or not far enough. It is possible to uphold a despotism, and it is possible to uphold constitutional government, but to do what he is attempting—to reconcile things in their nature irreconcilable—is beyond even his skill. If he did not intend fairly to carry out his scheme of reform, he should never have broached it. If he did not intend, when he promised France freedom of the press and of election, to retire himself from the position of a despot, and to give her also a *responsible* ministry, he should never for a moment have consented to relax the reins of authority, or involved himself in difficulties by making mention of concession. What is the use of prating about freedom of the press, or freedom of election to a people, without constitutional government, without a government responsible to, and removable at the will of, the National Parliament? To promise liberty to such a people is a mockery, since as long as the great boon of a *responsible* ministry is denied them, they can have no liberty—no privileges of any kind, save that which the caprice of a tyrant may grant to-day, and take away to-morrow. The case of France is an illustration in point. France has a *de jure* title to freedom of the press, and freedom of election, yet *de facto* she is in possession of neither; but let her once obtain a government accountable to the Chambers for its acts, and depending on the Chambers for its existence, and she will no more have occasion to complain of her rights being violated. This is a concession which the Emperor must promptly make, if he would allay the increasing discontent of the French people, and secure the sceptre of the empire to the Bonaparte dynasty. When such men as M. DE LA GUERONNIERE pronounce against him, and proclaim that the time has come for the "crowning of the edifice," NAPOLEON should perceive that he can no longer safely delay putting his house in order. If he would not be the wrecker of his own fortunes, he must henceforth be content to reign, and not to *govern*. The white ants are gnawing at the pillars of the imperial fabric, and will presently bring it toppling down about his ears, should they be suffered to work on. Nor can he, as is too commonly supposed, venture to attempt turning the attention of the nation from home grievances by plunging into foreign war, without incurring danger of another and no less formidable character. The aggressive spirit of France is dreaded by Europe, and her Emperor could engage in no foreign war which would not lead to the formation of a coalition against him, with which even the power of the second empire would be unable to contend. There remains, then, no alternative for NAPOLEON, but to make the necessary concessions to his people, or to persist in a course that will ultimately lead to the subversion of his throne, and the downfall of his Government.

The French Liberals on our Cause.

It has been remarked ever since the beginning of the rebellion, that the true aspect and relations of it seemed to be better understood in France than in England. This may not have been so in fact, but at the first the liberal men of England did not make their position so prominent as they have recently done, while GASPARIN'S "Uprising of a Great People," and similar works from France, fixed our attention more upon her. Perhaps it seemed the more remarkable to us that we should receive such sympathy from men who were living under a Government which is hardly to be charged with having too quick a sympathy for liberty, rather than from England, which has always claimed to be an especial defender of freedom. Perhaps, in the stress of the circumstances which were pinching us, words of sympathy and appreciation sounded so grateful in our ears as to prevent us from giving a fair judgment as to the comparative merit of what was said. But even yet we cannot but feel that the appreciation which has been shown by a portion of the French people for the merits of the struggle, and the interests which were really involved in it, has been very remarkable.

The recent letter sent by Messrs. DE GASPARIN, LABOULAYE, MARTIN and COCHIN to the Loyal League, and which has been published in pamphlet form by the League, has only increased our wonder, and also our respect and admiration, for the noble men who have penned it, and who have by it struck another blow in our behalf.

The writers give us a clear statement of the "errors and hesitations" of Europe with reference to our position; the doubting, strange to say, whether Slavery had anything to do with the rebellion, and the feeling that the South was an oppressed nationality, struggling for independence. But, though Europe may have thus erred, their own views are clear. "But for Slavery," say they, "the South would not talk of its suppressed independence." "Independence and nationality are words too noble to be abused," and should not be confounded with a "revolt in the name of Slavery—a fratricidal revolt, which would destroy a free constitution and tear asunder a common country, for fear lest there might be interference with the infernal slave traffic," &c. And in giving this statement of the error into which Europe has fallen, they demonstrate that they are errors of the most glaring kind.

The confidence which they express in our ultimate success is very pleasant. Our own confidence is great; and it seems to us not to be based merely upon our own desires, but to have a foundation of facts which every day is bringing more clearly into view. But it is none the less agreeable to have observers at a distance, who are at least removed from the scene of conflict far enough to overlook the whole field, arrive at the same conclusions that we do, and to see that what seem to us the great and controlling facts, appear to them also to be of the same relative importance; and, believing as they do that the end of the rebellion draws nigh, they give us some advice, for, as they well say, "The dangers of victory are not less than those of combat." They "hold it to be of the first importance that the cause of the war shall not survive the war." They urge that the problem of the races be "left to its own solution, for the most natural solutions are the best, and as for the rest "it may be stated in three words—moderation, generosity, liberty."

We think the determination of the American people that the power of Slavery shall not survive the war, is fixed. Here and there indeed there is to be heard a feeble voice from some partisan, who has so long groveled in the dust before that black idol, that he cannot see that it has been thrown from its pedestal, and who is hoping yet to see the Supreme Court come to its rescue and set the monster again upon its feet. But unless we greatly mistake the temper of the people, and especially of our citizen soldiers, Slavery can never be revived again—Proclamation or no Proclamation. The signs of the times all point in one direction on this question. As to moderation, generosity, and liberty, we have no fear but that they will be found in the hearts of our people when the military power of the rebellion is crushed. We shall be only too glad to see the old customs and habits of peace restored, purified as they will be by the fires of war.

The letter closes with a vivid picture of what shall be the future of our country when the rebellion, being at last destroyed, we enter upon the future which awaits us, when "the whole country, South as well as North, will enter upon a wholly new prosperity; European emigration will hasten toward your ports and will learn the road to those which, until now, it has feared to approach; cultivation, now abandoned, will renew its yield, and liberty—for these are her miracles—will revivify by her touch the soil which Slavery had rendered barren."

A noble letter, broad in its views, genial in its sympathies, lofty in the inducements which it urges upon us; moral influences, principles are put forward everywhere in it as the first things to be considered. "Conscience," it says, "in all human affairs, will have the last word." "Strengthen your cause daily by daily making it more just, and fear not; there is a God above." "Then there will be born unto you a greatness nobler and more stable than the old, for in this greatness there will be no sacrifice of justice." Would that every one would read and ponder this letter, the spirit of which is displayed by such sentences.

RECONSTRUCTION.—We should like to see the President's plan of reconstruction, or some other feasible plan, carried into action in some one or other of the reclaimed Southern States—Tennessee, for example. There is no doubt that that State has the requisite number of loyal voters; in fact, she has soldiers enough serving in our army to make up the one-tenth of the citizens required by the President. Judging by all accounts, the State is ripe for self-reorganization in every respect. The loyal citizens are anxious for it, not only as a demonstration of their loyalty, but that they may put themselves in the way of getting rid of the anomalous condition of things that now exists. It would have the same effect in the reorganization of society and in the establishment of public order that the State Government has had in Missouri. It would strengthen and consolidate the Union feeling, and would destroy the hopes of the rebels for again obtaining control of the State. We should like to see the State Government in operation, and a full delegation in both Houses of Congress from Tennessee.

NEWS FROM WASHINGTON.

SPECIAL DISPATCHES TO THE N. Y. TIMES.

PROMOTIONS IN THE NAVY.

WASHINGTON, Saturday, Jan. 9.

Acting-Masters HENRY BROWN, of the *John Griffiths*, ABRAHAM CHRISTIAN, of the *Sarah Burns*, and D. C. WOODS, of the *Sea Foam*, have been promoted to the grade of Acting Volunteer Lieutenants in the navy, for gallant conduct at the battle of Port Hudson.

Acting-Ensign H. WALTON GRINNELL, of the *Mongahela*, has been promoted to the grade of Acting-Master, for good conduct while in charge of the navy howitzers at the capture of Aransas, Texas.

DISPATCHES TO THE ASSOCIATED PRESS.

WASHINGTON, Saturday, Jan. 9.

A COURT-MARTIAL ON SURGEON-GENERAL HAMMOND.

The *Star* says the President has ordered a Court-martial for the trial of Surgeon-Gen. HAMMOND under charges of fraud and malpractices brought by the Commission that not long since examined into the affairs of his office. As it is publicly known that a number of persons claiming to represent the science and philanthropy of the country, have been exerting themselves here as a Committee to produce a prejudgment of the authorities against the integrity of the action of the Commission, instituting the charges for as well as against the characters of its individual members, we may not improperly add that Profs. AGASSIZ and PEIRCE, whose names are found among the alleged signers of the paper or address, have already taken occasion to repudiate it, upon the ground that they never designed their names should be used in any such manner, or for any such purpose as those to which the manager or managers of the effort to prevent due investigation of the Surgeon-General's official conduct, have undertaken to use them.

THE DEATH OF JUDGE SMITH.

The Secretary and Assistant Secretary of the Interior and the heads of the several bureaus, together with all the employes of that Department, met in the rotunda of the building this afternoon, and adopted suitable resolutions, in view of the recent decease of Judge CALEB B. SMITH, formerly Secretary of the Interior. As a further mark of respect, Secretary USHER ordered the Department to be closed during the remainder of the day.

MRS. LINCOLN'S RECEPTION.

The reception of Mrs. LINCOLN at the Executive Mansion this afternoon, the first of a series of winter matinées, was largely attended. Several of the foreign ministers were present, in person or by representation, and also army and navy officers and their families.

REFUGEES FROM VIRGINIA.

Four men were yesterday committed to the Old Capitol Prison. They claimed to be refugees from Virginia, and had on their persons a large amount of gold and a considerable sum in Southern bank notes.

From Fortress Monroe.

FORTRESS MONROE, Saturday, Jan. 9.

Maj.-Gen. BUTLER returned to Fortress Monroe last evening.

All vessels reported to have arrived here during the past week sailed this forenoon.

Wind, northwest.

The engineer and firemen that were captured from the *Star of the West*, and who escaped from the Richmond Prison, arrived here to-day.

The Steamship Africa.

BOSTON, Saturday, Jan. 9.

The steamship *Africa*, from Halifax, is below, but in consequence of there being so much floating ice about, she will not come up to port until daylight.

The Court of Appeals.

ALBANY, Saturday, Jan. 9.

In the Court of Appeals, the day calendar for Monday, Jan. 11, is as follows :

Nos. 32, 36, 37, 38, 40, 41, 35, 43, 44 and 45.

A Matter for the Postmaster.

To the Editor of the New-York Times :

Can you inform the reading public of the Twelfth Ward, through your valuable and influential journal, why they are compelled to pay 52 cents postage per year on weekly papers published in New-York, when the law expressly declares that they shall go free within the county where published. People residing in California, or beyond the Red River, may receive their papers for 20 cents per annum, while the benighted inhabitants of the Twelfth Ward are required to pay nearly three times that amount! This is manifest injustice, and either the law, or the Post-office, should be corrected.

HARLEM, Jan. 8, 1864. N. U.

AFFAIRS IN THE WEST.

The Great Storm—Business of Chicago for 1863.

A GREAT SNOW-STORM.

CHICAGO, Friday, Jan. 1, 1864.

For over 30 hours, a furious snow-storm, accompanied by a driving wind, has been raging all over the West. It is one of the most severe storms that has visited this region since Jan. 21, 1855. It cannot be otherwise than that the railroads are all snowed under, and that there will be a blockade for some days, as was the case after the great snow-storm in '55. No trains left last evening. The weather is cold, and upon the prairies, where the wind has full sweep, the suffering must be intense to all animal life which is exposed. It is impossible to ascertain the depth of snow that has fallen, as it is not permitted to lie wherever the wind can reach it, but is piled up in drifts in all sheltered spots. It is peculiarly unfortunate, occurring just at this time. The railroads have been unable, for some months, to furnish transportation for all the freight pressing upon them, and the shippers of hogs, especially, have already suffered great loss from delay. This storm will greatly increase the difficulty.

BUSINESS OF CHICAGO FOR 1863.

Our papers are publishing their annual statements of the business of Chicago, and other statistics for 1863. With the exception of the grain trade, there has been a marked increase in all other departments, as compared with last year. Our *foreign* trade, as shown by the receipt of customs, has increased 150 per cent. The duties collected this year are $161,800, and in 1862, $66,512. We have had several arrivals from Europe direct; but the amount of this trade is comparatively trifling. It merely goes to show that the thing is possible; but I judge from the little enthusiasm exhibited in regard to it, that it is not very profitable. Our trade with the provinces, however, is worth something, and our business men are anxious to encourage and extend it. It becomes New-York, therefore, to adopt a liberal policy on her canals in relation to Western produce.

The following is a comparative statement of the receipt of several leading articles here for the years 1862 and 1863:

	1862.	1863.
Flour, bbls	1,666,394	1,474,284
Wheat, bushels	11,180,344	13,978,116
Corn, bushels	29,449,328	26,450,508
Oats, bushels	4,138,732	9,139,525
Rye, bushels	1,038,825	839,760
Barley, bushels	892,053	1,098,346
Live Hogs, number	1,166,638	1,617,267
Dressed Hogs, number	205,163	283,252
Beef Cattle, number	210,261	298,381
Lumber, feet	261,365,000	392,811,000

There were manufactured in the city 236,610 barrels of flour during the year.

Number of arrivals by Lake, 8,678; tonnage, 2,172,-309; men employed in Lake navigation, 76,690.

The falling off in grain is confined to wheat and corn. There is continually increasing amount of flour manufactured in the interior towns of the West, and much of this has been bought up and sent South for the army, instead of coming here for a market. This will account for a part of the deficiency. But then, again, Chicago is continually increasing the area from which flour is sent here for a market. We now get much from Missouri and the southern part of this State, where we received none before. So, on the whole, we may conclude very reasonably that the Western wheat crop of 1862-3 was decidedly short. And in regard to corn, when we consider that in the middle of August it was quoted in our market at 48, and now at 92@95, it will be readily inferred that the great frosts of the last days of Summer account for the deficiency in our receipts. The crop of oats this year, in the northern part of this State at least, was one of the best ever harvested, and the heavy Government demand has brought them forward early in the season.

The largest weekly receipt of Flour—62,466 barrels—was for the week ending May 23; of Wheat, 671,020 bushels, for the week ending Oct. 3; of Corn, 1,162,-011 bushels, for the week ending June 20; of Oats, 681,533 bushels, for the week ending Nov. 7; of Hogs, 140,538, for the week ending Dec. 5.

In regard to other statistics, it is estimated from the reports of architects and other sources, that the cost of buildings erected during the past year, would exceed $3,00,000. Number of fires, 177; losses, $298,180; insurance, $156,850. Number of marriages, 2,239; last year, 2,006. Of deaths, 3,245. In 1862, 2,575. There have been 10,215 arrests by the Police during the year, and 230 convictions in the Recorder's Court. Twelve churches have been built; some of them large and handsome edifices. The City covers, or extends over an area of about 30 square miles; has 772 streets of an aggregate length of 406 miles; 105 miles of water pipes; 60 miles of sewers; 94 hotels; and about the same number of churches.

These are some of our statistics. I notice that some are estimating the population of Chicago at 200,000. If we reach this number at the State census in 1865, it will exceed my calculations. I put it at 175,000 at that time. But it is a fact, nevertheless, that we are growing, and that rapidly. But it is no use getting along too fast on paper. We had a disappointment in the census of 1860, which was minus about 25,000 of our calculations; yet still we may reach 200,000 by '65. There are no vacant houses in town—that's pretty certain, and this is a fact, which shows rapid progress.

The above statistics of trade do not, in my opinion, show the commercial prosperity of Chicago in its best light. Our manufacturing and wholesale business is increasing very rapidly indeed. The latter, especially, during the past year, has outrun all precedent. You may, therefore, set it down in your books that Chicago is decidedly prosperous in all departments of trade, commerce and manufactures.

The Cold Weather in Wisconsin.

To the Editor of the New-York Times:

LA CROSSE, Wis., Jan. 4, 1864.

This is the eighth winter that I have traveled through this Northwestern country, but never with the experience that I have had the last few days; nor is the memory of the oldest inhabitant able to recall such cold weather as we had here on the 31st of December and the 1st of January. The thermometer has frequently registered as low, but never accompanied by such severe high winds. I left St. Paul on the 29th, and reached this point on the 3d, travelling through the southern part of the State, and on the two days mentioned first above, the thermometer ranged from thirty-six to forty degrees below zero, with the wind for thirty-six hours blowing a full gale, which, according to Dr. KANE's experience in the Arctic regions, makes a difference felt by a human being of at least 100 per cent. more.

In Lake Pepin there is no current; it looses itself at the head, and boils up again at the foot (REED'S Landing) like a spring, which has prevented it from ever freezing over heretofore, but you can imagine the astonishment of the inhabitants (some who have been there for the last 20 years) on Friday morning last, to find that nature had the night before bridged the river from bank to bank, forming a perfect blockade. I saw three men cross over and back on it, and was informed by them the ice was four inches thick, and of sufficient strength to hold up a loaded wagon and pair of horses. At Wabashaw I saw five of the Minnesota stage-cars drivers, old and tried men in this country, one having driven for seventeen years, another ten years, without suffering any injury from frost until this last snap, when every one of them had their faces, hands and feet badly frozen. One of them will undoubtedly be a cripple for life. I have heard of but one case of the loss of life, which was a driver of the Wisconsin Stage Company, who was dead when his team came up to the barn of the station near Sparta. The 1st of January, 1864, will never be forgotten by the inhabitants of the country. There is from twelve to eighteen inches of snow on the ground, which has had no tendency whatever to moderate the wind.

THE STORM AT NIAGARA FALLS—ICE JAM.—The Niagara Falls *Gazette* of Wednesday, has the following in relation to the effects of the late terrific storm in that vicinity: "In some of its effects the storm surpassed anything of the kind within the recollection of our oldest citizens. The water in the river—which has been unusually low for several months—raised to an unprecedented hight, overflowing the low shores, and even the docks at Fort Day, but doing but little damage. Below the Falls the increased volume of water raised some thirty feet, the gorge below being so gorged with water as to retard its passage. The extreme cold formed ice very rapidly, which was, of course, as rapidly broken up by the wind and hurried down the river. Saturday, Sunday and Monday, the river above the Falls seemed to be one vast mass of floating ice hurrying to the grand Cataract. In the shallow places and along the shores ice fastened as the flood went down, so that the river presents a spectacle very seldom observed when the ice breaks up in the Spring and is forced from the lake. Vast quantities of ice have fastened on the rocks in the rapids and between the islands near the Falls. Just above the toll-gate where the wild and impetuous torrent rushes madly by, the ice has become located as for a winter's residence. The Islands above can be reached by crossing on the ice, while far above the ice has shut off more than half the volume of water that usually flows this side of Goat Island. Of course the paper mill, as also the mills on this side, were rendered temporarily useless by the ice. Below the Falls no ice bridge formed, because the 'ice was the finest 'slush,' and was easier forced along by the great flood."

AFFAIRS IN UTAH.

A Murder—Theatricals and Lectures—Mercantile.

Correspondence of the New-York Times.

GREAT SALT LAKE CITY, Friday, Dec. 11, 1863.

The quietude of this city was violently disturbed on Monday by a "murder most foul," in open daylight, in front of the principal "hotel," in the main street; SAMUEL BUNTON, of Oregon, and recently from Idaho, being the victim, and JASON LUCE the assassin.

It appears that both parties had arrived from the Idaho gold country a few days previously, LUCE being a driver in the employ of the Bannock and Salt Lake Express Company. The two had had a difficulty at Bannock City, where, according to LUCE's story, BUNTON and others had assaulted, maltreated and threatened to kill him. True to the lawless instincts of border life, LUCE, the first fair or foul opportunity, took sure steps to forestall BUNTON.

The occurrence is related as follows: The two met in front of TOWNSEND'S Salt Lake House, when LUCE asked the deceased if his name was so and so. BUNTON gave an affirmative answer, but seemed undesirous of any rencontre and began to move off. LUCE immediately struck him a deadly blow in the back, burying his knife or dagger up to the hilt, and again another blow on the side of the neck. BUNTON fell on his face and was carried away. A movement of persons near to arrest the murderer was stayed by his brandishing the weapon, dripping with gore, and declaring it entirely unsafe for any but the civil authorities to attempt to secure him. In a short time, the authorities appearing, LUCE gave himself up, and was taken into custody. The next day the prisoner was examined, and committed for trial, which, I suppose, will take place before His Honor, Judge TITUS, next March.

On Saturday evening, IRA JONES WILLIS, and CORNELIUS JOHN, his son, nine years of age, met with their death in a painful manner. They had been to the cañon with their team to get a load of wood. Returning, riding on the load, the wagon turned over in crossing Dry Creek, near Lehi, burying father and son beneath the load.

The theatre closed on Saturday, according to announcement, with the play of "Ireland as It Was," followed by "Essence of Ole Virginny," and "Perfection."

The Winter season is to bring forth the sensational melodrama in all its glory. "The Octoroon," "Colleen Bawn," "Green Bushes," "Marble Heart," "Siege of Lucknow," "Rob Roy," and the like are strongly talked of

On Wednesday next, during the interim between the two seasons, there will be in the theatre a "grand juvenile concert of three hundred voices," conducted by Mr. DAVID O. CALDER.

The Winter's series of lectures at the Seventies' Hall has commenced. ORSON PRATT holds forth tonight. Already the following have been delivered: "Modern Lecturers and Modern Writers," by E. L. T. HARRISON; "Ancient and Modern Literature," by E. W. TULLIDGE; the "Metropolitan Daily Press," by T. B. H. STENHOUSE. Twice a week, on Tuesdays and Fridays, was first appointed. Hereafter, the lectures are to be weekly, on Thursday evenings only.

The gold dust trade has flatted down to small proportions, and will probably not again be brisk until Spring. Flour and wheat are in market in exceedingly small amount. The price, however, has not advanced, and perhaps will not till January or February. It may be quoted, for flour, $7 per hundred, and for wheat $2 50 per bushel. Corn meal scarcely to be had. Oats $1 per bushel; barley $1 25; both more easily obtained than corn or wheat. Beef 10 cents per pound, mutton 15 cents, pork 18 cents. Wood $10 to $12 per cord—not very plenty.

The snow covers the ground. Sleighing moderate. Weather not severe, but changeable—very fine and very warm sometimes at midday, occasionally quickly followed by an afternoon northwester that chills to the very marrow.

The President's Conditional Pardon.

To the Editor of the New-York Times:

The enemies of the Administration assert that unless there be *some limit* to the right of the Executive to cheese at will the conditions upon which he will pardon a *crime*, every provision of the Constitution will be subverted and swallowed up in the pardoning power.

This idea is prominently put forward in an article in the *World*, of this date, Dec. 28. The editors of that journal are infected by the influence which always pervades the Anglo-Saxon "world" after a great event like that which has just rendered famous "one of the hills of Sussex." As ANDY SHEEHAN could not be restrained on Saturday night, so your able cotemporary, overcome by the same subtle intoxication of sympathy, steps cheerily forward, his irrepressible muscles quivering with conscious vitality, "shies his castor" into the ring, in the shape of a challenge to sound argument upon the validity of the President's amnesty, and comes *smiling to the scratch*.

Five points are stated, which seem to "the world" to require discussion, and perhaps we may hereafter consider them; but to day it is proposed to suggest a few considerations in reference to the pardoning power, as exercised with conditions, the right to impose which, it is argued, is, if it exists, so formidable and the claim to which is so unsound,

It is, after all, a topic which deserves to be treated with seriousness and with gravity, with consistency as well—not condemning in a breath "loose declamation and confident assertion," before the lungs are emptied and expanded, appealing to the passions with the cry: "If President LINCOLN should offer to pardon pseudo President DAVIS after his conviction and sentence for treason on condition that the said DAVIS would consent to be his valet, and should serve without pay during the residue of his life, this conviction could as well be justified by the pardoning clause as those offered in the proclamation."

If such a jeer may be a fair specimen of the adversary's store of solid arguments our convictions will not be much affected by the stress of them—however he may succeed in exciting our emotions.

The Constitution of the United States provides that the President shall have *power to grant pardons* for offenders against the United States, except in cases of impeachment.

The terms on which the Constitution confers the power to grant pardons are in their effect equivalent to the declaration of the Common Law of England, that it resides in the Crown.

It existed in the Crown prior to the statute 27 HENRY VIII., c. 24, which declared "that no other person hath power to pardon or remit any treason or felonies whatsoever; but that the King hath the whole and sole power thereof."

In making this assertion that the power of the President in this particular is equivalent to that prerogative, there is no room whatever for the idea that it is, therefore, injurious to the liberties of the citizen.

As a matter of fact in the growth and formation of the British Constitution, all the dangerous prerogatives of the Crown have been resumed by the nation, and it is a popular remark that the President may do many things the Crown would not dare attempt. The only point now under examination is the naked one whether the power in the case of the President is *equivalent* that of the Crown.

There is no question that it is in every particular that can possibly affect the manner of its exercise whether constitutional or unconstitutional.

Lord COKE says: "This high prerogative is inseparably incident to the the Crown, and the King is intrusted with it upon especial confidence that he will spare those only whose case, could it have been foreseen, the law itself may be presumed willingly to have excepted out of its general rules, which the wisdom of man cannot possibly make so perfect as to meet every particular case."—3 Inst. 233.

As this subject is beyond the limit of a single communication, we prefer to rest here upon this stable point, viz.: That the grant in the Constitution and the power exercised by virtue of the prerogative of the Crown are, for the purposes of this argument, identical.

In our next we hope to take several steps in advance, and if we are as successful as we hope to be, we shall satisfactorily refute the assertion that the conditions imposed by the President cannot be imposed, or that the right to impose them is fraught with any danger to our liberties.

AN OLD FRIEND.

CRUELTY TO ANIMALS

Letters from the People.

To the Editor of the New-York Times:

Your correspondent, "H. S. S.," is unfortunately right. Instances of brutality to horses, almost unknown in our boyhood, are now becoming very common; and even such instances as that which he has so feelingly described, are not the worst. The owner or driver has rarely the means of removing an animal disabled by sudden accident, at a distance from home; he, at least, is comparatively blameless. But there are owners and drivers who deliberately and knowingly use, or attempt to use, horses utterly unfit for work, and that not merely for short distances in carts, but on long pleasure (!) excursions. I have myself witnessed these poor brutes giving out from pure exhaustion on the road, sometimes actually while standing on the ferry-boat, the hackmen beating them meanwhile, and the people inside the hackney-coach sitting still, unconcerned, until the impossibility of making the luckless beasts move forced them to get out.

I have noticed that the persons engaged in these cruelties are generally foreigners, and it may very well be that to foreign immigrants we are indebted for this deterioration of American character in one of his leading features. We used to be famous for humanity to our horses, and tourists, who abused almost everything else in the country, always gave us credit for that. Probably, however, the growth of the City, and increasing value of horse flesh, have also something to do with the matter. But whatever the cause, it is high time to call forth such better feelings as are left in the better part of the community. No doubt we were once sentimentally effeminate about disagreeable things, and in these war times a good deal of harshness and want of feeling must be allowed; but only *incidentally*, for the sake of the good that cannot be done without it. There are even kinds of brutality that have their palliating points. A prize fight is a low and sanguinary exhibition, but it certainly tests strength, endurance, courage and a species of science, and therefore respectable men are found who tolerate, nay, defend it. But the weakest fool, or the most miserable coward can torture a horse or a dog. Cruelty to domestic animals is every way disgusting and abominable—it is only a little less bad than cruelty to children. Equally surprising and distressing is it to hear that the police, for whose conduct respectable citizens have usually no words but those of praise, have acted in the manner described by your correspondent.

One word on a kindred subject; the disgraceful and disgusting practice of leaving dead horses to lie for days where they fall. They are really more common in our streets than dead cats or dogs in European thoroughfares, and the authorities take less pains for their removal. I don't wonder MAURICE SAND put it down as a startling fact in his book that he had known a dead horse to lie two days on Broadway, which I also saw myself two days last June in front of Grace Church; and in less fashionable streets and in the suburbs I have known them to lie four and five days in the midst of Summer till their carrion tainted the air.

CARL BENSON.

To the Editor of the New-York Times:

I am glad to see the public attention called to the shameless and unpunished barbarity constantly inflicted on animals in this Christian City. The communication of H. S. S. in the TIMES, does not tell half of every man's experience. Last Winter an omnibus horse broke his leg at the corner of Broadway and Cedar-street; he lay there from Tuesday to Friday morning, one of the nights being the coldest of the season. I begged and entreated various Policemen to kill him or have him removed but they did not. I stopped various omnibus drivers and begged them to have him cared for, with no effect. I then went to the Mayor, and even he did nothing. Last Summer, a man was driving a fractious ox through the Bowery. It was very wild. The man took a knife and cut the sinews of his hind feet, and he went staggering on, on his *naked joints*. No policeman interfered. Last Summer, I saw, what we see every day, a load of calves piled one top of the other like a cord of wood. The cart was going at great speed, and one of the poor animals had his head on the wheel that was grinding off the skin, and the blood was streaming. I could not stop the cart, but I went to the Mayor and begged him to order the Police to arrest any one guilty of such acts of barbarity. He said he had long had it in mind to consult with Mr. OAKEY HALL, and have an act passed by the Common Council to prevent such acts. But yesterday I saw a load of sheep piled in a butcher's cart in the same way; they were mostly on their backs, three or four deep, driven very fast, and one was bleeding badly. They passed fifty Policemen, and not one was man or Christian enough to arrest the driver. A fortnight since I saw a cart cruelly overloaded; the horse's shoes were smooth, he was on a Russ pavement, and it was simply a mechanical impossibility for him to move the load; the cartman was cruelly beating him; I pointed out the difficulty, and entreated him not to abuse his horse so uselessly; he turned upon me, and called me a d—— old fool, and wanted to know what business I had to interfere. I took the number of his cart, and went again to the Mayor's office, and made a formal complaint. The officials there told me they could do nothing about it; but, if I wished it, they would send for him, and "*scold him.*" As I could get nothing more stringent done, I asked them to do that, but doubt if they ever did. As the Legislature is in session and a new Common Council have come into power, I trust for the sake of common humanity, and as we fear the retribution of *Him* who put these poor animals under our protection, that proper laws will be immediately passed that will prevent men from making themselves greater brutes than the animals they abuse.

J. H. P.

The Camden and Amboy "War."

To the Editor of the New-York Times:

It is well known to the readers of the TIMES that on the 1st of December, 1863, a disturbance occurred among the employes of this far-famed monopoly, [as follows:

Discontent appearing among their workmen, the Company proposed an advance of ten cents per day to all their laborers. This they refused to accept, and at once demanded an additional ten cents, or in all one dollar and fifty cents per day. The Company peremptorily refused to accede to this demand, and work at once ceased in the transhipment of freight. The Sheriff of the County being called upon to quell any disturbance that existed, or *might arise*, after surveying the ground, reported himself unable to cope with the outbreak, and the Governor was called upon to bring to the assistance of the Company the military arm of the State. Consequently, on the 5th ultimo, several companies of the "State Militia" were sworn into service for thirty days.

The services of the company now here were not required until the 26th. We came here at that time, and no outbreak appearing, we were employed day and night in guarding the railroad property, and have done it faithfully and *willingly*. But now, as our time has expired, and as no disturbance occurred previous to our coming, or subsequently; but, on the contrary, since everything appears as quiet as in any village of the State, we ask to be "mustered out" of service and allowed to return to our homes and business.

Instead of this, the Company have made a demand for another thirty-days' service, and we are compelled to remain, when no outbreak exists, and when the civil arm is not brought to bear, even should such outbreak threaten.

We are perfectly willing to do *our whole duty* to this railroad, or any other corporation when necessity exist. *But we are not willing* to sacrifice our time and business, when no such emergency appears.

The people of the State will demand at the hands of the Governor the reason of this injustice to the militia, and the large and useless expense incurred on behalf of the State. Yours, &c., MILITIA.

SOUTH AMBOY, Wednesday, Jan. 6, 1864.

Ladies' National Army Relief Association.

WASHINGTON, Thursday, Jan. 7, 1864.

To the Editor of the New-York Times:

Thankful for your courtesy in publishing my letter in your issue of the 3d, I desire to correct an error which causes me to say the opposite of what is true, viz.: That nurses do not *desire* pay outside of general hospitals. *Desire* should read *receive*.

To secure experience and permanence of service, the nurses should and must be paid and protected. All can understand that.

Our "Announcement" is out and the "Circular" will immediately follow.

Strong sympathy with our cause is everywhere met, and now as we enter the field to remove the last difficulty before us, (the want of means,) I feel assured this will disappear as have far more formidable ones that have melted, or are rapidly melting, away.

The noblest and best are ready to enter the field the moment we can receive them, and wasting lives implore the relief and saving care.

Women *have* an interest in the great Army of the Union. It encircles their most precious treasures, and military lines are loosing their severe rigidity quite perceptibly, and what was early in the war an intrusion surrounded with great prejudice is now hailed with thankfulness whenever properly understood.

SARAH P. EDSON.

P. S.—Communications can be addressed or interviews had at No. 713 Broadway, Room No. 20, until the 20th of January.

Gen. Thomas's Report of the Battle at Chattanooga.

To the Editor of the New-York Times:

I call public attention to the report published by Gen. THOMAS, Chattanooga, September 30, 1863. It is a masterpiece, and towers above all the reports furnished during the war by the generals on both sides.

Gen. THOMAS gives evidence that he either understood to organize under him a staff and a chief of staff worthy of that name, or that in his own person he combines the capacity of a commander with that not less rare and valuable—of a chief of the staff.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 30, 1863. ETAT-MAJOR.

Jeff. Davis' "Slaves."

To the Editor of the New-York Times:

Below you have an extract from a letter written not three weeks since, in JEFF. DAVIS' own State, at a place now within the Confederate lines. The gentleman who writes this letter was a large land and negro proprietor, and, three years ago, was an out-and-out Secessionist.

I have no doubt that nine-tenths of all the citizens in Mississippi now hold the same sentiments that he does. He writes:

"The country is entirely ruined, and so are all the people, and myself among the number. I am satisfied that secession was the greatest heresy of the age. We should have fought for our rights in the Union; now we have no rights, but are JEFF. DAVIS' *slaves*, made so while the negroes are free."

Morton's Gold Pens are now sold at the same prices as before the commencement of the war; this is entirely owing to the Manufacturer's improvements in machinery, his present large Retail Business and Cash-in-Advance System; for, until he commenced advertising, his business was done on Credit and *strictly with the Trade*.

The Morton Gold Pens are the only ones sold at old prices, as the makers of all other gold pens charge the Premium on the Gold, Government Tax, &c.; but Morton has in no case changed his prices, Wholesale or Retail.

Of the great numbers sent by mail to all parts of the world during the past few years, not one in a thousand has failed to reach its destination in safety; showing that the Morton Gold Pen can be obtained by any one, in every part of the world, at the same price, postage only excepted.

Reader, you can have an enduring, always ready, and reliable Gold Pen, exactly adapted to your hand and style of writing, which will do your writing vastly cheaper than Steel Pens; and at the present almost universal High-Pressure Price of everything, you can have a Morton Gold Pen cheaper, in proportion to the labor spent upon it and material used, than any other Gold Pen in the World. If you want one, see "The Pen is Mightier than the Sword," in another column.

Gold Pens—THE BEST AND THE CHEAPEST, AT A. MORTON'S, No. 25 MAIDEN-LANE, New-York

A New Perfume for the Handkerchief.
Extract of the

Night Blooming Cereus,
Night Blooming Cereus,
Night Blooming Cereus,
Night Blooming Cereus,
Night Blooming Cereus,
Night Blooming Cereus,
Night Blooming Cereus,

A Most Exquisite, Delicate and Fragrant Perfume, Distilled from the Rare and Beautiful Flower from which it takes its name.
Manufactured only by PHALON & SON.
BEWARE OF COUNTERFEITS.
ASK FOR PHALON'S—TAKE NO OTHER.
Sold by Druggists generally.

Gold Pens.
FOLEY'S Celebrated "Bank" and extra fine GOLD PENS AND PENCILS.
Store and Factory No. 169 Broadway.

Trusses, &c.—MARSH & CO.'S Radical Cure Truss Office, only at No. 2 Vesey-st. Also supporters, suspensory bandages, silk elastic stockings for varicose veins, shoulder-braces, &c. A lady attendant.

Armless Soldiers! The Board of Surgeons and the Surgeon-General U. S. A. have given special honorary commendation to the Palmer Arm, and authorized its manufacture. Full information given by the Inventor, Offices, Philadelphia, New-York and Boston. Palmer's legs, also.
B. FRANK PALMER, Surgeon Artist.

Batchelor's Hair Dye,
The best in the world, the only reliable and perfect dye known. Instantaneous and harmless. The genuine is signed WILLIAM A. BATCHELOR. Sold by all druggists and perfumers. Factory No. 81 Barclay-st.

MARRIED

RUSSELL—HANCE.—At Bordentown, N. J., Friday, Jan. 8, 1864, by Rev. Horace S. Bishop, Rector of Christ Church, HENRY E. RUSSELL, Esq., and MARY AUGUSTA HANCE.

DIED.

CARTER.—On Saturday morning, Jan. 9, of consumption, ELISABETH, wife of Adolphus F. Carter, aged 33 years.

The relatives and friends are respectfully invited to attend the funeral, on Monday morning, Jan. 11, at 9½ o'clock, from her late residence, No. 134 East 16th-st. Her remains will be taken for interment to New-Canaan, Conn.

COTHEAL.—At Fishkill Village, on Friday, Jan. 8, CATHARINE E., wife of Isaac E. Cotheal, and daughter of the late Richard and Ann Rapalje.

Funeral from her late residence, at 1 P. M. on Monday, the 11th inst. Carriages will be at Fishkill Landing depot on the arrival of the 7 o'clock train from New-York.

JONES.—In Brooklyn, on Friday, Jan. 8, HENRY B. JONES, in the 48th year of his age.

The relatives and friends of the family are respectfully invited to attend the funeral, from his late residence, No. 3 Elm-place, on Monday, at 1 o'clock P. M.

MCBRIDE.—In the hospital at Knoxville, Tenn., on the 14th ult., of chronic diarrhœa, ROBERT MCBRIDE, of Co. F, 79th regiment (Highlanders) N. Y. S. Vols., aged 24 years and 10 days. A native of Irvine, Ayrshire, Scotland.

TOPLANTI.—In this City, on Saturday, Jan. 9, Mrs. E. F. TOPLANTI, aged 36 years.

The funeral will take place at No. 26 East 26th-st., on Sunday, at 12½ o'clock.

VAN BUREN.—On Saturday, Jan. 9, of typhoid fever, WILLIAM A., only son of Dr. William H. and Louisa Van Buren, grandson of Dr. Valentine Mott, aged 16 years and 10 months.

A Requiem Mass will be celebrated at St. Stephen's Church, 28th-st., on Monday, 11th inst., at 10 o'clock A. M., precisely. The friends of the family are invited to attend without further notice.

WELSCH.—In Brooklyn, on Thursday, Jan. 7, CHARLES WELSCH, aged 54 years and 6 months.

The relatives and friends of the family are respectfully invited to attend his funeral, on Sunday next, at 2 P. M., from his late residence, No. 257 Livingston-st., Brooklyn.

WESTERVELT.—On Friday, Jan. 8, BENJAMIN WESTERVELT, in the 93d year of his age.

The relatives and friends of the family are invited to attend his funeral, on Monday, the 11th inst, at 11 o'clock A. M., from his late residence, 123d-st., Harlem, between 2d and 3d avs.

OFFICIAL DRAWINGS OF MURRAY, EDDY & CO.'S
KENTUCKY AND MISSOURI STATE LOTTERIES.

KENTUCKY, EXTRA CLASS 111.—Jan. 9, 1864.
65, 62, 9, 20, 71, 32, 58, 54, 6, 37, 30, 8.
KENTUCKY, CLASS 112.—Jan. 9, 1864.
55, 4, 53, 51, 45, 50, 31, 68, 74, 32, 9, 23.
Circulars sent free of charge, by addressing either to
MURRAY, EDDY & CO.,
Covington, Ky., or St. Louis, Mo.

DRAWING OF THE
SHELBY COLLEGE LOTTERY, OF KENTUCKY.
EXTRA CLASS 15—Jan. 9, 1864.
28, 41, 18, 20, 74, 15, 50, 35, 4, 17, 67, 70.
CLASS 16—Jan. 9, 1864.
32, 4, 42, 71, 60, 63, 45, 68, 13, 46, 5, 1.
Z. E. SIMMONS & CO., Managers.
Successors to John A. Morris & Co.

SCHLESWIG-HOLSTEIN.
The undersigned, having been appointed a Committee for the collection of a fund for the relief of the suffering Schleswig-Holsteiners, appeal to the Germans of New-York to interest themselves in the noble cause represented by them.
Our countrymen all over Germany are proving their sincere sympathy with the fate of the brave inhabitants of the German Duchies in the most emphatic manner, but the sufferings, especially among the late employes of the Government, who have paid for their patriotism with the immediate loss of their income, is so great that every offering which the German heart may be prompted to give to the German cause will be needed, and such assistance is confidently expected also from the Germans of America.
Let us respond to this expectation, Germans of New-York, and by ample gifts assure our suffering countrymen in the distant Fatherland of our heartfelt sympathy with their struggle against oppression and wrong.
The undersigned will be happy to receive your contributions.
LEOPOLD BIERWIRTH, No. 43 Wall-st.
JOH'S LIENAU, No. 2 Jones-lane.
G. W. LOTZ, No. 161 Pearl-st.
GEORGE MOSLE, No. 52 Exchange-place.
GUSTAV SCHWAB, No. 68 Broad-st.
NEW-YORK, Dec. 30, 1863.

EAR-RINGS AND PINS, NEW STYLES—TWO, THREE, FIVE, and EIGHT DOLLARS a set. For sale by
GEO. C. ALLEN, No. 415 BROADWAY,
One door below Canal-st.

RELIGIOUS NOTICES.

CENTRAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, Broome-st., two blocks east of Broadway. Preaching on SUNDAY by the Pastor elect, Rev. JAMES B. DUNN, at 10½ A. M., and 7½ P. M. Subject in the morning—*God is Willing to Hear and Answer Prayer for Great Blessings.* In the evening, subject—*Why, then, are not Our Prayers Heard and Answered?* Preaching every evening next week, except Saturday. Sunday School at 9 A. M. and 2 P. M.

AN ASSEMBLY OF BELIEVERS IN THE Lord Jesus Christ meets at University Building, Washington-square, every FIRST DAY OF THE WEEK, at 10½ A. M., to worship God and break bread together, in remembrance of the Lord's death till He come. The glad tidings of full, free and everlasting salvation, through the precious blood of a crucified and risen Saviour, are proclaimed in the EVENING, at 7½ o'clock. The seats are free, and no collection is made.

"THE REPRESENTATIVE SINNERS OF the Bible."—The fourteenth discourse of this series will be delivered on SUNDAY EVENING, at 7½ o'clock, in the Brooklyn Tabernacle, by Rev. WM. ALVIS BARTLETT. Subject—"*Nebuchadnezzar.*" Preaching in the morning also, by the Pastor, at 10½ o'clock. Sabbath School at 9 A. M., and 2½ P. M.

THE FOURTH OF THE COURSE OF Sermons on "The Liturgy" will be preached on SUNDAY EVENING, the 10th inst., by Rev. W. STEVENS PERRY, in the Church of the Incarnation, corner of 28th-st. and Madison-av. Subject—*The Collects, the Product and Bequest of Primitive Antiquity.* Services to commence at 7½ P. M.

SOUTH CHURCH LECTURES—SECOND SERIES—being discourses upon *Christian Life*, delivered in the South Baptist Church, 26th-st., between 7th and 8th avs. Rev. ALEXANDER R. THOMPSON, Pastor of the 21st-st. Reformed Dutch Church, will preach the second of this series of practical sermons on SUNDAY EVENING, Jan. 10, at 7½ o'clock. Subject—*Faith.*

SEVENTH-ST. M. E. CHURCH—BETWEEN 3d and 3d avs. Closing Prayer Meeting of the Week of Prayer. The closing services of the Week of Prayer will be held in this Church on SATURDAY (this) EVENING, at 7½ o'clock. Subject—*The Outpouring of the Holy Spirit, and the Revival and Extension of Pure Christianity throughout the World.*

TRUE AND FALSE RELIGION.—H. S. DUNN will preach on this subject on SUNDAY, at 10½ o'clock A. M., in the Hall, southeast corner of Broadway and 23d-st. Believers in Bible religion of every name, favorable to the forming of a society for discussing moral and religious subjects, are especially invited to attend. Seats free.

REV. NEWTON HESTON, PASTOR OF the State-st. Congregational Church, (near Hoyt-st.,) Brooklyn, will preach on SUNDAY, at 10½ A. M., the first sermon of a series on *The Baptism of Fire*, and at 7½ P. M., the first sermon of the second series, on the United States in Prophecy: subject: *The Stone Kingdom, or the Fifth Great Empire.*

MARINERS' CHURCH OF THE NEW-YORK PORT SOCIETY, corner of Madison and Catharine-st. Seats free. The next in the course of Sabbath evening sermons will be delivered by Rev. PETER STRYKER, of the Ref. D. Church, New-York, on SABBATH, Jan. 10, at 7½ P. M. Preaching at 10½ A. M. by the Pastor, Rev. A. MCGLASHAN, as usual.

FIRST FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH, 28th-st.—At a meeting of the Church and Society, held Dec. 21, it was resolved that the supposed necessity for selling or renting their property had passed away, and that all offers to sell or rent are hereby withdrawn, and public services will be continued at the usual hours.

TENTH-AV. M. E. MISSION—NEXT TO corner of 37th-st. Rev. STANLY D'ORSAY will preach in the above-named place, every SUNDAY EVENING, until further notice. Service to commence at 7½ P. M. Seats free, to which the public are cordially invited. Regular Mission Prayer Meeting on Thursday Evening.

SEVENTH-ST. M. E. CHURCH—BETWEEN 1st and 2d avs.—SUNDAY, 10th inst., Rev. G. R. CROOKS, D. D., will preach MORNING and EVENING Subject: Morning—The last of a series of discourses on *The Life and Character of Christ.* Evening—A discourse to young men. Seats free.

"THE REPRESENTATIVE SINNERS OF the Bible."—The fourteenth discourse of this series will be delivered on SUNDAY EVENING, at 7½ o'clock, in the Brooklyn Tabernacle, by Rev. WM. ALVIS BARTLETT. Subject—"*Nebuchadnezzar.*" Preaching in the morning also, by the Pastor, at 10½ o'clock. Sabbath School at 9 A. M., and 2½ P. M.

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FIRST FREE WILL BA

MONETARY AFFAIRS.

Sales at the Stock Exchange....Jan. 9, 1864.

$1,000 U. S. 6s, '81, Reg.	105	1300 Rud. R. R.	130
1,000 do	104⅞	100 do	s10 130
20,000 U. S. 6s, '81, Co. Es.	104	500 do	13⅜
14,000 U. S. 6s 5-20s, Cou.	101⅜	100 do	s3 130⅜
2,000 U. S. 6s, '68, C.	127	350 do	130⅛
20,000 U. S. 6s, 1y. c. N.	97⅞	300 do	b10 131
5,000 Mo. State 6s	67⅝	600 do	b10 131
10,000 do	b30 68⅛	200 Harlem R.	90
5,000 N. C. State 6s	50	100 do	89⅞
5,000 Virginia State 6s	47	400 do	89⅜
7,000 E. 4th M. Bs	108⅜	2000 Reading R.	opg. 112
4,000 Erie 5th M. Bs	104	500 do	111⅛
5,000 M. C. & Co. 1st M.	93	500 do	111⅜
Sk. Fd. R.	121⅛	500 do	b30 112
3,000 C. & N. W. 1st M.	93	100 Mich. Cen. R.	119⅛
50 Am. Exc. Bank	108	350 do	119¾
100 Canton Co	33⅛	100 do	119⅞
100 do	33	10 do	119⅝
500 Cumb. Coal Pf'd	68⅜	300 do	b30 120
200 do	48⅝	50 Mil. & Pr. Du C. R.	55
350 do	48¾	100 do	54⅞
400 do	b10 49	150 do	b30 55⅜
250 do	49	250 do	b15 55⅝
200 do	b10 49⅛	300 M. S. & N. I. R.	86⅛
100 do	c 48⅞	1200 do	86¾
700 Quick. M. Co	5⅛	100 do	b10 86⅜
200 do	b30 57⅛	50 do	b30 87
200 Quarts H. G. M. Co.	12	1000 do	b10 86¾
200 do	11⅜	50 do	b5 86⅜
100 Copake Iron Mines	11	650 Ill. Cen. R. S.	118⅛
100 do	10⅜	500 do	118¾
200 Canada Copper Co.	3	50 do	s30 118⅝
100 do	3¼	200 do	b10 118¾
50 Central Coal Co	65	600 do	118¾
400 Chi. & N. W. R.	46¾	200 do	b10 119
100 do	46⅜	100 do	b5 119
150 do	46⅝	10000 Ill. Cen. C. B. S.	110
50 Wyom. V. Coal	87⅛	1000 Cleve. & Pitts	104
50 do	87	500 do	105⅛
300 Mar. Min. Co	34⅜	300 do	105¾
200 do	b30 35	300 do	105⅞
200 do	b15 35	400 do	b15 106
200 do	b10 34⅜	100 do	b10 106⅛
15 Pacific M. S. S. Co.	222	300 Gal. & Chic. R.	103⅞
100 do	b10 221	100 do	s10 105⅜
25 do	220	500 do	105⅝
50 do	219⅝	400 do	b5 105¾
5 do	219	100 do	b10 106⅛
200 N. Y. Cen. R.	130¾	100 do	b30 106⅜
200 do	s10 131	60 Clev. & Tol. R.	128
200 do	131	200 do	128⅛
100 do	b10 131⅜	300 do	s30 128⅜
800 Erie R.	107⅜	100 do	s30 128⅝
400 do	107⅝	700 do	129
1700 do	107⅞	1000 do	129⅛
2300 do	s10 107¾	13 Chi. & R. I. R.	129
600 do	107⅝	100 do	s30 129
600 do	b15 108	200 do	s60 129⅜
200 do	b10 108	500 do	s60 129⅝
200 do	b30 108⅛	200 do	129¾
850 P., Ft. W. & Ch	83⅝	600 do	129⅝
100 do	83⅞	100 do	b30 130
700 do	b10 84	250 do	b10 129⅞
100 do	b10 83⅞	500 do	b10 130⅛
100 do	b10 83⅞	50 do	b5 130
100 do	b30 84⅛	100 A. & T. H. Pref.	68⅜
160 Erie R. Pr.	102⅜		

SECOND BOARD.

$4,000 U. S. 6s, '81, Reg.	105	50 Chi. & R. I.	131
5,000 Mo. State 6s	68	50 do	131¾
100 Cum. Coal Pref.	b10 49	200 do	131¾
100 do	s10 48⅞	150 do	b10 132
400 do	49	10 Ill. Cen. R. S.	b10 118⅜
200 do	s10 49	100 do	119
300 do	b10 49⅛	100 do	b10 119
100 Quicks. M. Co	5⅞	200 do	118⅜
100 N. Y. Cen. R.	131	300 do	118⅝
1400 Erie R.	107¾	200 Clev. & Pitts	106¾
100 do	b10 108¼	200 do	106
100 Erie Railway P.	s30 102¾	800 do	105¾
800 P., Ft. W. & C.	84	100 Gal. & Chi. R.	s10 106
200 do	s10 84	100 do	106
400 Hud. R. R.	131¾	50 do	106⅜
200 do	b10 132	100 do	s10 106⅝
100 do	132	1000 Cleve. & Tol. R.	131
100 do	b10 132¾	300 do	131¾
400 Mich. Cen. R.	119	200 do	131⅝
50 M. S. & N. I. R.	86⅞	100 Chic. & N. W. R.	46⅜
800 do	86⅞	200 Reading R.	112
800 do	87	100 Harlem R.	90
400 do	b10 87¼		

PUBLIC BOARD—1 P. M.

200 N. Y. Cen. R.	131	200 Gal. & C. R. ex-d.	s30 105¾
850 do	131⅜	200 do	105¾
100 do	c 131	200 Clev. & Tol. R.	129⅜
100 Erie R.	107⅜	100 do	129¾
200 do	107⅝	300 do	s30 130
200 do	s3 107⅝	300 do	130
200 do	b3 107⅞	850 Chic. & R. I.	130
1300 do	107⅞	100 do	s3 130
200 do	b5 107⅝	500 do	c 130
900 do	s30 107⅞	500 do	130⅛
100 Erie Pref.	102⅜	100 do	b3 130⅜
200 Hudson R. R.	c 133	200 P., Ft. W. & C.	83⅞
200 do	c 130⅛	200 do	c 83⅞
200 do	s3 130⅛	100 do	bnw 83⅞
200 do	s3 130⅜	100 do	b5 84
100 do	130⅜	100 do	b10 84
100 do	131	100 Cumb. Coal	c 48⅜
100 do	b3 131	100 do	c 48⅞
100 Mich. Cen. R.	b30 120⅜	50 do	c 48¾
100 M. S. & N. I. R.	s3 86⅜	100 do	s3 48⅞
100 Ill. Cen. R.	c 118⅜	100 do	48¾
300 do	118⅜	200 Quicks. M. Co	c 5⅝
200 do	b3 118⅜	100 do	5⅝
100 do	118⅜	200 Q'tz Hill G. M. Co.	11⅜
1100 Cleve. & P. R.	105⅞	100 do	12
100 do	c 105⅞	200 M. S. & N. I. R	c 86⅛
200 do	c 105⅞	700 do	c 86⅜
200 do	b3 106	100 do	86⅜

PUBLIC BOARD—3½ P. M.

200 New-York Cen.	132⅛	100 Gal. & Ch. R. ex-d.	105⅝
100 do	s3 132⅛	150 do	105⅞
3150 Erie R.	108⅛	100 Cleve. & Tol. R.	133
100 do	s10 108	200 do	134
1400 do	b3 108⅛	200 do	s10 133⅜
300 do	b3 108⅜	500 do	134⅛
3600 do	108⅝	100 do	134¼
100 do	b10 108⅜	100 do	b3 135
100 do	b5 108⅞	550 do	s10 135
100 Hud. River R.	133	200 do	s30 135⅜
100 do	s3 133	1000 do	135
1500 do	133⅜	200 Chic. & R. I. R.	130⅛
100 do	b3 133⅛	50 do	130⅛
300 Mich. Cen. R.	s10 119⅛	800 do	133⅛
100 M. S. & N. I. R.	b3 87⅛	200 P., Ft. W. & C.	84⅛
100 do	s3 87⅛	300 do	84⅜
500 do	87⅞	200 do	b10 84⅝
1000 do	87⅜	100 do	s3 84⅝
500 do	b3 87⅜	100 Chic. & Alton Pf.	95
100 do	b4 87⅜	300 Cumb. Coal	48⅛
100 do	b5 87⅜	100 do	s3 48⅜
1100 Ill. Cen. R.	119	50 do	s3 49⅛
100 Cleve. & Pitts	s3 106	600 Lancaster Lead Co.	5⅛
300 do	106⅛	100 Erie Pref.	102⅞
200 do	106	100 do	102⅞
100 do	s30 106		

SATURDAY, Jan. 9—P. M.

The demand for Money continued sharp to-day, but the Stock Market nevertheless recovered rapidly from the depression of yesterday, and closed in the afternoon with much buoyancy on the General Share list. Several descriptions were higher by 2@3 ℘ cent. than the top rates before the downward turn of Thursday night. The sales of Chicago and Rock Island, and Cleveland and Toledo, this afternoon, were at the highest figures in the history of these Roads. The advance on Hudson River from last night's sales is nearly ⅝ ℘ cent., and on Erie, Central, and most of the Western Roads, 1½@2 ℘ cent. The buoyancy was more decidedly marked after the breaking up of the Second Board, when the following prices were made in comparison with Friday night. The prices for Gold and Exchange, and for Government paper varied but slightly from yesterday's quotations:

	Fri.	Sat.		Fri.	Sat.
Gold Coin	151¾	152	Mich. Central	118⅞	119⅜
U. S. 6s, 1881	105¼	105⅜	Mich. Southern	85¾	87⅜
N. Y. Central	130¾	132⅛	Mich. Guarant'd	134	134⅜
Erie	107	108⅜	Illinois Cen	117⅜	119⅜
Erie Preferred	101⅜	102⅜	Pittsburgh	103⅜	106
Hudson	129⅜	133⅛	Fort Wayne	83⅜	84⅝
Pacific Mail	220	220	Rock Island	128¾	133⅛
Harlem	88	89⅞	Galena	105	105⅜
Canton	33	33⅜	Reading	111	112⅜
Treas. Certs., new	97⅜	97⅞	Quicksilver	56	57⅜
Toledo	128	135	Cum'land Coal	49	48⅝
Northwest	46	47	Mariposa	34⅜	34⅝

The receipts at the Treasury Office to-day for account of the Popular Loan were, on

Subscriptions direct	$1,141,100
Through Loan Agents	1,148,716
Total	$2,299,816

The unsubscribed balance of this Loan is now about $38,000,000. A further delivery of Legal Tender 5 per cents. was made by the Treasury Office to the Associated Banks to-day. The apportionment of the Notes already received has not yet been made by the Loan Committee of the Clearing House, although a number of the Banks are selling the Notes for delivery early next week.

The export of Specie by this day's steamers for Europe is $1,149,000, making for the whole week, $1,216,000.

The following bids were made to-day for the City Bank Shares:

New-York	119	Chatham	96
America	125	Bk. of the Republic	102
Phenix	103	Hanover	97
National	104	Grocers'	105
State of New-York	103	Nassau	105
Mechanics' Bank Ass.	96	Park	120

And the following for the Railway Mortgages:

N. Y. Cen. 6s	104	Al. & T. H. 2d Incomb.	82⅛
N. Y. Cen. 6s, Real Est.	101	Chi. & N. W. 6s	104
N. Y. Cen. 6s, Subs.	101	Chi. & N. W. Exten.	93
N. Y. Cen. 7s '65	106⅛	Chi. & N. W. In. Bonds	94
Erie thirds, '83	111	Chi. & N. W. firsts	92
Erie fourths, '80	107⅜	Chi. & N. W. seconds	72
Erie fifths, '85	104	Tol. & Wab. 1sts	100
Buff., N. Y. & E. 1sts, '77	104	Clev. & Tol. S. F.	100
Hud. R. 1sts, '69	110	New J. Cen. firsts	103
Mich. C. new 1sts, '83	121	Pitts., Ft. W. & C. firsts	106
Illinois Cen. 7s	118	Pitts., Ft. W. & C. 2ds	86
Al. & T. H. 2d Pref'd	92⅛		

The Assistant Treasurer reports the business at the Sub-Treasury to-day as follows:

Receipts, $2,820,382 78; including for Customs, $308,000: Payments, $1,496,580 65; Balance, $38-847,028 63.

MESSRS. BEEBE & BRO., of Front-street, furnish the annexed statement of the stock of Teas in the hands of importers, and held on speculation, in New-York, Jan. 1, 1864:

IMPORTED DIRECT FROM PLACE OF PRODUCTION.

	½ chests.		lbs.
Hyson	2,803	50 lbs. each	140,400
Young Hyson	25,757	55 lbs. each	1,396,635
Hyson Skin	5,286	45 lbs. each	237,870
Twankay	3,142	50 lbs. each	157,100
Gunpowder	4,684	65 lbs. each	304,460
Imperial	2,735	60 lbs. each	164,100
Japan, "uncolored"	9,563	40 lbs. each	382,520
Totals	51,976		2,693,085

INDIRECT IMPORT, MAINLY FROM LONDON.

	½ chests.		lbs.
Hyson	953	50 lbs. each	47,650
Young Hyson	9,532	55 lbs. each	524,260
Hyson Skin	19	45 lbs. each	855
Twankay	660	50 lbs. each	33,000
Gunpowder	562	65 lbs. each	36,625
Imperial	567	60 lbs. each	34,020
Japan "Uncolored"	1,638	40 lbs. each	65,520
Total Greens	13,954		743,930
Total Japans	11,201		448,040
Total	65,929		3,436,435

IMPORTED DIRECT FROM PLACE OF PRODUCTION.

	½ chests.		lbs.
Souchong and Congou	6,663	40 lbs. each	266,520
Oolong	59,957	38 lbs. each	2,278,366
Ankoi	3,416	48 lbs. each	137,408
Powchong, "Oolong"	1,645	36 lbs. each	59,220
Powchong, "Singapore"	7,650	34 lbs. each	260,100
Total	79,531		3,001,614

INDIRECT IMPORT, MAINLY FROM LONDON.

	½ chests.		lbs.
Souchong and Congou	390	40 lbs. each	15,600
Oolong	2,819	38 lbs. each	107,122
Powchong "Oolong"	250	36 lbs. each	9,000
Total	3,459		131,722
Total Blacks	82,990		3,133,336

The movements in Breadstuffs in Milwaukee, week ending with Jan. 6, Messrs. JONES & Co. notice thus:

"*Flour*—The market continues inactive, and there is no change to note in prices. The shipments are very small, buyers, as usual at this season, mostly storing for Spring freights. Storage can be had till 1st of May next at 8c. @10c. ℘ bbl. Receipts for week 1,899 bbls., against 6,984 bbls. same time last year. *Wheat*—With light receipts and a good demand prices have advanced about 1c. ℘ bushel. Owing to an unusually severe snow-storm and extremely cold weather, all the railroads in this section have for the past few days been almost completely embargoed, and there have been no receipts since Friday last. For the three days previous the receipts aggregated 41,935 bushels. The stock in store on 1st January is reported at 1,134,400 bushels. We quote No. 1 Milwaukee Spring Wheat (the article which is sold and quoted in New-York as "Amber Green Bay" and "Amber Iowa") at $1 18@$1 18¾ in store, subject to 4c. ℘ bushel storage to 1st May next; No. 2 do at $1 09. *Oats*—Quiet at 59½@60c. in store."

AGRICULTURE.

Report of the Department upon the Condition of the Country.

The monthly report of the Department of Agriculture, for Novemoer, will soon be issued. Hereafter it will appear every two months only, as experience shows that a monthly report does not give time enough to correspondents to properly gather the information asked of them by the monthly circulars, nor does it allow mature consideration of the statistical matters embodied in the returns of these correspondents.

This report contains an article from the Commissioner of Agriculture, stating the matters essential to perfecting the plan of the reports. These are, first, procuring a sufficient basis on which estimates of the crops from year to year can be made, and to determine the progress of other industrial pursuits. This basis must be a well systemized census every fifth year. On such a basis, he is satisfied that a correct estimate can be made through the information of correspondente in every country. 2d. He asks power to extend this correspondence, so as to embrace statistics appertaining to manufactures and commerce, as well as to agriculture, on the ground that these industrial pursuits are so intertwined as to be inseparable. The value of agricultural products depends on the home market created by manufacture and commerce, and a knowledge of these is essential to determining the demand for these products. As the foreign market also materially influences this value, a knowledge of the condition of the English crops from time to time, and of those countries which supply the markets of Great Britain with breadstuffs is necessary, and hence he asks to be placed in communication with our Consuls, that through them this information may be obtained.

In connection with these subjects the Commissioner advocates the necessity of hereafter establishing a Bureau of Statistics, as a part of the Agricultural Department, for the reason that having a regular monthly correspondence in every county of the Union, it can command the services of persons well trained in collecting statistics and who appreciate their object; that hence, neither delay, nor errors, nor expense, will be attendant on a census taken by this Department, which has characterized the decade census, and that as this Department alone has special cognizance of the interest of industrial pursuits all matters, such as the census, which almost exclusively belongs to these pursuits, should come under the jurisdiction of the Department of Agriculture.

The tables of this report refer more to sustaining the soil by the use of proper manures and deep plowing than to the condition of the crops; but in this connection is stated the amount of the clover seed crop for 1863, in nine of the principal clover seed producing States—the omitted States raising but little. This crop is as follows:

Clover Seed Crop for 1863 *in Nine States.*

1859	837,109 bushels.
1862	1,034,790 bushels.
1863	806,448 bushels.

Being a decrease in the last year's crop of 228,342 bushels, or 28 per cent. This decrease was caused by drought, the scarcity of fodder and hay, and the severity of the fall frosts.

The report shows the great utility of plaster as a manure, sown on clover in June, and the entire growth turned under for wheat in the Fall. The necessity of establishing manufactories of bone charcoal at slaughtering houses, for refining sorghum molasses, and using it afterward as a manure, is also shown.

The reliability of the information obtained by the department through its correspondents is referred to in the present condition of the pork trade, and as predicted by the department. The exports of breadstuffs and provisions are given, with their prices in New-York on the 1st inst.; also, the general imports and exports; the proper mode of stating these by taking from the amount of exports of produce the difference between gold and currency; the perplexity arising from a want of a uniform system of weights and measures in England, and the necessity of Congressional action on the subject in the United States.

Congress prints 120,000 copies of the annual Agricultural Report, and 15,000 copies of the monthly report, yet these inadequately supply the public wants; and hence the Commissioner advises a trial of the English plan of distributing public documents—*to sell them at cost.* The present cost of the annual Agricultural Report is sixty cents. Collections and orders could be sent from every county, through the regular correspondent of the department.

The meteorological part of the report is mere full and interesting than heretofore given. The same severity that has marked the climate of the Mississippi since July still continues, although, generally, the weather has been favorable for Fall-sown crops, and for farm stock and labor.

The Giddings Case.

THE APPLICATION FOR COSTS AND TO QUASH THE CAPIAS REFUSED.

The Montreal *Gazette*, of Jan. 2, has the following report of the decision given by Judge SMITH, of the Superior Court, on the application by Mr. GIDDINGS counsel for security for costs and to quash the *capias*:

His Honor said in giving judgment in the above case, that there were two points to be considered—first the motion in behalf of the petitioner (Mr. GIDDINGS) for security of costs, and, second, to quash the, *capias* issued against him. This was in regard to an action brought by the plaintiff REDPATH against GIDDINGS, to recover damages for certain injuries to his person, which he alleges had been inflicted on him by order, at the instance, or with the sanction of GIDDINGS. Defendant moves for security for costs, and alleges in support that REDPATH has no domicile in this country. But the action is brought by REDPATH who declares himself to be a resident of this country, and though possessing no dwelling, he is in point of fact a resident; even the affidavits presented by defendant showed REDPATH was a resident here. The law said: If any injury be inflicted upon any person living in this country, he had a right to bring his action to Court. With regard to the several affidavits presented in this case, which were taken in New-York, he would say they were not evidence in our Courts, not being taken by any one recognized by the Courts here, as possessing authority to administer an oath or examine witnesses. The depositions were calumnious in their nature, and did not touch the matter in dispute, but merely vilified the plaintiff's (REDPATH's) character. The judgment of the Court in reference to these depositions was, that they be struck from the files of this Court. The plaintiff was, beyond all doubt, residing here when the injuries set forth in his petition were inflicted upon him, and as the motion in security of costs was therefore unsupported, he must declare it rejected. The main point, however, was—whether the action brought against the defendant was one that could be legally brought in this Court. There was no doubt that serious damage had been inflicted upon the plaintiff, but whether the plaintiff were guilty or not would be determined by a jury. The second motion was, that the *capias* be quashed, on several grounds, the principal being, that the *capias* was served on Sunday without reason or just cause: that Deputy-Prothonotary HENRY had no power to issue the writ for service on the defendant, and that plaintiff did not assign sufficient reasons to justify him in swearing that defendant was about to leave the Province. As to the issue of the writ on Sunday, the general rule was that the process should issue only on juridical day. But there was an execution in favor of Sunday. If a Judge upon examination of information found that a defaulter or delinquent was about to leave the country, and that by Monday he was likely to be beyond its jurisdiction, surely he had a right to issue a writ of *capias*. As to Mr. HENRY's powers, that gentleman, as Deputy Prothonotary, was charged with the duty of issuing similar writs almost daily, and in this matter his power was not limited. He did nothing unusual or illegal on the occasion in question. As to the objection that there was not sufficient ground to justify plaintiff's depoising that defendant was about to leave the Province, he had sworn that Mr. GIDDINGS had told him, only a few days before, that he intended to return to the States. This statement might or might not have been true, but certainly the amount of probability justified the issue of the writ. He (the Judge) now came to the most substantial ground of objection on the part of the defence, as to whether the plaintiff's claim against the defendant rested on what was called unliquidated damages. Our own statute declared that the party who swears that another party about to leave the country is indebted to him in a sum exceeding $40, is entitled to the benefit of a writ. In this case, it was sworn that the defendant was indebted to plaintiff to the amount of $400 for expenses incurred in procuring his (plaintiff's) release at the hands of the authorities in New-York, and in addition that he is indebted to plaintiff in the sum of $20,000 for damages in consequence of his being kidnapped to the States. Was that not a debt sworn to. We are told that debt was contracted in the State of New-York. That was no justification, but a part of the *delictum* itself? the deportation of the plaintiff to New-York, occasioning his expenditure of $400, was a portion of the series of torts arising out of an illegal act. He thought, as far as the $400 was concerned, there was evidence enough of a debt being sworn to, if a debt could be said to exist when a man swears—I have been obliged to lay out this much in my own defence, owing to the position in which I have been placed. It had been asked could a *capias* issue in regard to a debt claimed as damages. In this country where our legal principles were derived from the Roman and French law, all claims were considered debts, where an action would lie, whether they arose out of a contract or *tort*. The law held a man who injures his fellow liable for damages. In many of the States of the American Union, no distinction was made by the Courts between claims in cases of *tort* and claims arising from breach of contract, and any other principle would be a wrong one. It would be absurd to say that a man should not recover damages for injury—should not recover this kind of a debt because there was no contract. He thought that if there were no other debt than the $400, the facts of this case warranted the issue of the writ in question. In this case, it cannot be denied, a writ had been inflicted which had some bearing upon the question as to the character of the damages, unliquidated or not. Suppose a man was carried off to a foreign country, and by this means fairly ruined in business, surely it would be useless to contend the damages claimed were unliquidated—damages for which a party liable could not be arrested. Under all circumstances of the case, the application, namely, for security for costs, and to quash the *capias* against the defendant, Mr. GIDDINGS, would be rejected. After the delivery of the judgment adverse to the motions in behalf of the Hon. JOSH. GIDDINGS, his counsel, Messrs. PERKINS and STEPHENS, gave notice of appeal therefrom.

Larceny of Coal from the Reading Railroad Company.

For months, if not for years past, the Reading Railroad Company has suffered considerable loss in the matter of coal stolen from their cars, both at Richmond and near the Fairmount Park. Owing to the large business transacted by the Company, it is found necessary to leave cars containing coal standing upon the tracks, and night after night these cars have been visited by men and women and boys and girls, who have helped themselves liberally to the coal. According to the sworn statement of Mr. HILLES, one of the officers of the Company, this coal is in transit, and for all deficiencies the Company is required to pay. The loss by stealing has averaged from $1,500 to $2,000 per month.

Finding the evil to be a growing one, the Company employed the services of detectives, and on one morning at daylight, about two months since, nearly one hundred persons were caught in the act of stealing the coal from the cars. Subsequent investigations disclosed the fact that while some of the parties had been content to steal a quantity sufficient for the day's consumption, others went into the business by the wholesale, and transferred the coal from the Company's cars to their own carts, and retailed it out, and thus made quite a profit, considering that if required no capital to commence business. The robberies were the most bold that have ever been committed. The parties concerned appeared to consider that they had a special license, and they made their appearance about the cars with carts, barrows, bags, baskets, and every conceivable article that would assist them in their depredations. After the arrest, some of the parties were found to have three and four tons of coal stowed away in the cellars, the result of daily visits to the cars.

Since the arrest of these defendants, the Quarter Sessions has been busy disposing of the cases, although great difficulty is experienced in bringing the defendants into Court. Six have been convicted and sentenced to imprisonments ranging from three to five months. In two instances, where it was a doubt that it was the defendant's first visit to the cars when arrested, sentence has been suspended for the present. —*Philadelphia Ledger, Jan. 6.*

The Russian Squadron.

A LETTER FROM ADMIRAL LISOVSKI.

From the Philadelphia Ledger, Jan. 9.

The following letter was received yesterday by Mayor HENRY, from the Russian Admiral, in reference to the coming of the squadron to this city:

The Honorable the Mayor of Philadelphia—SIR: The squadron under my command has been honored with a visit of a deputation from the citizens of your city, tendering us their hospitality and invitation to come to their waters. My verbal answer has been such as to convey to the honorable members of the deputation the feeling of high appreciation of the honor offered us, and at the same time I informed them that our visit depended, unfortunately for us, upon circumstances over which I could have no control. Different repairs that all my ships wanted, more or less, detained me in New-York much longer than I at first imagined. The delay was occasioned by scarcity of workmen in New-York, large bodies of them being in earnest requisition by the Government for the support of the immense navy created in an incredibly short time. Finally we had our ships clear of the shipwright, but at a period when a trip the stormy North would be unjustified, if not commanded by actual duty. I see, therefore, myself obliged to postpone my visit to the next spring, while the winter months shall be devoted to a cruise in the West Indies.

Be pleased, sir, to consider in these lines the expression of high regard and consideration, with which, I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant.

S. LISOVSKY,
Rear-Admiral Imperial Russian Navy.
HAMPTON ROADS, Flag-ship *Ostiaba*, Jan. 6, 1864.

FOREIGN ITEMS.

—An odd trial has taken place in which the plaintiff was M. ALEXANDRE DUMAS, the defendant M. LOPEZ, the latter having represented, at the Theatre Belleville, a play purporting to be by himself and the said M. DUMAS conjointly. The novelist has sued him for stating what is untrue and calculated to make his reputation cheap. The defendant "put in" the manuscript of the piece, signed, incontestably, by M. DUMAS. But here the matter by no means came to an end. As "countercheck," it is now stated that the play is simply an exercise in translation from the German, made some years ago by M. DUMAS, the piece being "Die Abendestunde," of Kotzebue; and that the manuscript, little cared for and mislaid, had straggled somehow into the possession of M. LOPEZ, who has appropriated it in the obnoxious manner complained of.

—The Committee for raising subscriptions on behalf of a memorial to the late WILLIAM MULREADY, R.A., have recommended to the subscribers the following plan: Firstly, to erect a suitable monument over the grave of the artist at Kensal Green; secondly, to offer a bust of him to the Trustees of the National Gallery or the National Portrait Gallery; and thirdly, to devote any surplus to the establishment of a Mulready prize to students.

—There is to be printed at the Clarendon Press, Oxford, and published by Messrs. MACMILLAN & Co., the University publishers, a *History of England for the Use of Schools and Colleges*, by Prof. GOLDWIN SMITH; and the same publishers have announced for some time *A Boy's History of England*, by Prof. KINGSLEY, which is to be published simultaneously in England and America.

—Mr. FREEMAN announces a new Christmas story, entitled "The Rosary: a legend of Wilton Abbey," by WILLIAM GILBERT, Esq., author of "Shirley Hall Asylum," of which report speaks highly. The same writer has also in the press a two volume novel, called "The Goldsworthy Family." Mr. GILBERT has somewhat suddenly leaped into popularity as a writer of fiction.

—Mr. FOLEY is to execute the statue of O'CONNELL for Dublin. The sub-committee appointed to consider the best method of obtaining the aid of a sculptor decided that, as first-rate sculptors would have nothing to do with competitions, it would be useless to repeat the experiment of inviting a host of men to compete. Satisfied on this point, the committee applied to Mr. FOLEY.

—SCRIBE's widow has placed M. MEYERBEER in an awkward alternative. Either he is to produce the "Africaine," for which M. SCRIBE wrote the text, or he is to give her the sum of 60,000 francs as compensation. This, the Parisians think, will probably have the desired effect of making him come out after 20 years of hesitation.

—Dr. STRANG, the accomplished and popular City Chamberlain of Glasgow, died in that city a few days ago, at the age of 68. His "Glasgow and Her Clubs"—a work giving an interesting account of the social antiquities of Glasgow—was published in 1855; and he wrote many papers besides on Glasgow economics.

—An Italian playwright, one Signor BOCCADERO, following the French examples set in "Mistress Siddons" and "Kean," is writing a play on the life and adventures of RACHEL; and the heroine is to be personated by Mdlle. SADOWSKI, whom, for some years past, the Neapolitans have pitted against Mme. RISTORI as an actress.

—Two most interesting relics of JACOB GRIMM have just been published for the first time in a *brochure* of 68 pages: "Rede auf Wilhelm Grimm," and "Rede uber das Alter," in the latter of which the picture of old age is drawn from his own life-experiences.

—Messrs. TRUBNER & Co. have just published their English version of RENAN's "Life of Jesus." It is a handsome volume of 300 pages. The whole edition was at once subscribed for by the trade. The name of the translator is not given.

—The French drama "Montjoye," which is having such a success at the Gymnase that all the seats are taken for ten days in advance, will, it is calculated, bring 100,000 francs to its author, M. OCTAVE FEUILLET.

—Miss KATE RANOE, the adopted daughter of the late M. JULLIEN, and a promising young actress and singer, has been engaged for the new Extravaganza, to be brought out at Christmas at the Olympic Theatre.

—Signor SIVORI, the accomplished violinist, having terminated his engagement with M. JULLIEN at Her Majesty's Theatre, has left London on an artistic tour in the south of France. Signor SIVORI returns in April, and will remain during the season.

—The bronze monument of MELANCTHON which is to be erected at Wittenberg, where he died 303 years ago, is now finished. It has been cast at Berlin.

—Mr. LEIGHTON has executed a whole length figure of CIMABUE, dressed in white and holding a palette and brushes, which is now placed in the south court of the Kensington Museum.

—Mr. WILLIAM ALLANHAM has a poem just ready, entitled "Lawrence Bloomfield in Ireland," which has been appearing for some time in fragments in *Frazer's Magazine*.

—The new theatre of Alexandria will be inaugurated in the course of the present month with Italian opera. It will have two tiers of boxes, and contain 1,500 persons.

—The Committee of the Royal Academy of Music in London have issued orders that every student in the Academy must attend the class for "sight singing."

—Herr JOACHIM and his young wife will, it is understood, visit London in the Spring. He is at present giving a series of quartet concerts at Hanover.

—Mme. GRISI has been appearing in her favorite part of "Norma" at La Pergola Theatre, Florence, in an entertainment for the benefit of the wounded Poles.

—A nobleman, who is a member of the British Bar, and was recently married, pleaded at 11 o'clock in the court, and at 12 was at the altar. This was business-like.

—Mme. FREZZOLINI is about to make a tour through Italy with a company of her own. She has lately been appointed chamber-singer to the Queen of Portugal.

—Miss ADELAIDE PROCTER, daughter of the poet, Barry Cornwall, is seriously ill. Miss PROCTER is as well known by her charming writings as her father is.

—The adventures of LOLA MONTES at the Court of Bavaria have been taken by Signor BOSSI as the subject of a new "ballet" to be brought forward at Vienna.

—The celebrated Madame GALLETTI has passed through Nice, en route for Lisbon, where her *début* in "Norma" is looked forward to with high expectations.

—An opera, entitled "Les Adventuriers," by Prince PONIATOWSKI, is to be brought out shortly at the Theatre Lyrique, in Paris.

—The speeches of the Prince Consort have been translated by Dr. FAZER, of Bremen, very successfully, and have met with a large sale in Germany.

—The little narrative entitled *Pet Majorie* has attracted the notice of Her Majesty the Queen, who has commanded a copy to be forwarded to her.

—FLOTOW's "Stradella" has been produced at the Carlo Felice Theatre, Genoa, but has not become as popular as the same composer's "Martha."

—The sum set apart for the Dublin memorial to the Prince Consort is the very respectable one of £5,000. Mr. FOLEY will execute the work.

—Mr. GYE states that his opera undertaking, which has ranged over fourteen years, has involved an expenditure of upward of £750,000.

—FRANSHINI is engaged to sing in Paris during the whole time that M. BAGIER has the Italian Opera, at the rate of 1,000 francs a night.

—A theatre is to be constructed in the Faubourg St. Germain, Paris, which is to be kept entirely for the *beau monde* of that quarter.

—Mr. HENRY FAWCETT, of Trinity Hall, has been elected to the professorship of political economy in Cambridge.

—A young girl, a Mlle. KRIBS, of Dresden, has produced a *furore* as a pianist. She is only eleven years old.

—"The Seven Ravens" is the title of an opera by Herr RIETZBERG, to be brought out at Munich.

—The *Moise* of ROSSINI is to be revived immediately at the Grand Opera at Paris.

—Mme. LIND-GOLDSCHMIDT is to sing at Windsor, in aid of the Volunteer Fund.

—The night PATTI first appeared at Madrid the seats sold for 300 francs a piece.

The Guerrillas in Missouri.

A CAMP NEAR DONIPHAN BROKEN UP.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD M. S. M. CAVALRY,
PILOT KNOB, Mo., Dec. 30, 1863.

*

FINANCIAL

CHICAGO AND GREAT EASTERN RAILWAY COMPANY, FIRST MORTGAGE BONDS, FOR $2,000,000.

SUBSCRIPTION BOOKS OPENED WITH Messrs. SCHUCHARDT & GEBHARD, Bankers, No. 21 Nassau-st., New-York.

The Chicago and Great Eastern Railway Company now offer for sale one million one hundred thousand dollars of their first mortgage bonds, in sums of one thousand dollars each, maturing in thirty years, bearing interest at the rate of Seven per cent. per annum, payable in the City of New-York, on the first days of April and October, in each year.

These bonds are secured by a first and only Mortgage on the property, income and franchises of the Railway Company, executed to Frederick Schuchardt and Henry Morgan, of the City of New-York, Trustees.

The remaining nine hundred thousand dollars of the Bonds are set apart and remain in the hands of the said Trustees, for the purpose of being exchanged for the Indebtedness of the Chicago and Cincinnati Railroad Company, running from Lafayette Crosse to Logansport; this effected, the $3,000,000 will form a First and only Mortgage on a line of road 110 miles in length, extending from Chicago to Logansport, where it connects with the Cincinnati and Chicago Air-line Railroad, forming the shortest line by 40 miles, between Chicago and Cincinnati, and by 38 miles the shortest line between Lounsville and Chicago.

It will also open, in connection with roads now in operation, entirely new and very direct lines from Chicago to New-York, Philadelphia, Baltimore, and all Eastern cities. The distance between Chicago and New-York by this route being shorter than by either of the existing lines via Dunkirk or Buffalo.

The road is now under contract, and the most strenuous efforts are being made to have it open for traffic during the Summer of 1864.

The interest on the Bonds maturing during the progress of the work has been provided for, and will remain on deposit with the Bankers of the Company, Messrs SCHUCHARDT & GEBHARD, No. 21 Nassau-st., to whom the Company refer for further particulars, and where subscription books for this loan have been opened.

W. D. JUDSON, President.

No. 37 William-st., New-York, Dec. 23, 1863.

NOTICE.

FOURTH NATIONAL BANK OF THE CITY OF NEW-YORK—CAPITAL, FIVE MILLIONS.

The Commissioners for receiving subscriptions to the stock of said Institution hereby give notice that the whole amount having been subscribed, an election for Nine Directors will be held on MONDAY, 18th instant, at the office of the United States Trust Company, No. 48 Wall-st., between the hours of 1 and 3 o'clock P. M.

PETER COOPER,
GEORGE OPDYKE,
FREEMAN CLARKE,
DAVID DOWS,
JOSEPH STUART,
HENRY W. T. MALL,
BENJAMIN H. HUTTON.

New-York, Jan. 2, 1864.

Office Marietta & Cincinnati Railroad Co., As Re-organized, Chillicothe, Ohio, December 30, 1863.

A MEETING OF THE STOCKHOLDERS of the Marietta & Cincinnati Railroad Company (as re-organized) will be held at the office of said Company in the city of Chillicothe, Ohio, on THURSDAY, the 14th day of January, 1864, at two o'clock P. M., for the purpose of voting for or against the notion of a contract entered into between said Company and the Cincinnati and Indiana Railroad Co., and such other matters as may be brought before the meeting.

By order of the Directors.
W. S. WATSON, Secretary.

DIVIDENDS.

Office of the Platte Country Railroad Company, St. Joseph, Mo., Jan., 1864.

CIRCULARS EXPLANATORY OF THE terms upon which the January, 1864, Interest will be paid upon the Missouri 6 per cent. Bonds issued to the Platte County Railroad Company, can be had on application to H. T. Morgan & Co., No. 35 William-st. It is desirable that holders should make an early decision, as the bondholders and Company are alike interested in an early adjustment of the question.

(Signed,) WM. OSBORNE, President.

Cleveland, Columbus and Cincinnati Railroad Company, Cleveland, Jan. 4, 1864.

A CASH DIVIDEND OF FIVE PER CENT., and a stock dividend of 20 per cent., (both free of Government tax,) have been declared by this Company, payable at the usual places, on and after the 1st day of February next.

The transfer books will be closed from the evening of Jan. 15 until Feb. 2.

By order of the Board of Directors.
GEO. H. RUSSELL, Treasurer.

Mechanics' Bank, New-York, Dec. 19, 1863.

DIVIDEND.—THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS have this day declared a Dividend of Four Per Cent., free of Government tax, payable to the stockholders on and after 2d January next. The transfer books will be closed from this date until Jan. 2.

WM. H. COX, Cashier.

Tradesmen's Bank, New-York, Dec. 22, 1863.

DIVIDEND.—A SEMI-ANNUAL DIVIDEND OF Five (5) per cent. on the capital stock, has this day been declared (free from Government tax), payable on MONDAY, Jan. 4.

ANTHONY HALSEY, Cashier.

Office of the Jersey City Insurance Company, No. 1 Montgomery-st., Jersey City, Jan. 2, 1864.

FOURTEENTH SEMI-ANNUAL DIVIDEND.—The Board of Directors of this Company have this day declared a Semi-annual Dividend of Five (5) per Cent., payable on demand, free of Government tax.

J. PAULMEER, Secretary.

Bank of New-York, Dec. 18, 1863.

159TH DIVIDEND.—THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS of the Bank of New-York have this day declared a dividend of Five (5) per Cent., free of Government tax, payable on and after 2d January next. The Transfer Books will be closed from this date until 2 January.

W. B. MEEKER, Cashier.

DIVIDEND.—THE MECHANICS' AND TRADERS' Fire Insurance Company, (No. 48 Wall-st., Bank of New-York Building,) has this day declared a Semi-Annual Dividend of Seven Per Cent., free from Government tax, payable on 9th inst.

JAMES R. LOTT, Secretary.

New-York, Jan. 4, 1864.

Relief Fire Insurance Company, No. 8 Wall-st., New-York, Jan. 6, 1864.

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS HAVE this day declared a semi-annual dividend of Five per Cent. on the Capital Stock of the Company, free from Government tax, payable on demand.

W. E. CRARY, Secretary.

Office of the New-York Equitable Insurance Company, No. 58 Wall-st., New-York, Jan. 6, 1864.

DIVIDEND.—THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS have this day declared a Semi-Annual Dividend of Ten Per Cent., (free from Government tax,) payable to the stockholders on and after the 9th inst.

JOHN MILLER, Secretary.

Irving Bank, New-York, Dec. 28, 1863.

21ST DIVIDEND.—THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS of this Bank have declared a Dividend of Three and One-Half Per Cent. (3½) free from Government tax, payable on and after the 5th day of January. The Transfer books are closed to that day inclusive.

DANIEL V. H. BERTHOLF, Cashier.

Pacific Fire Insurance Co., No. 470 Broadway, (Branch Office No. 72 Wall-st.,) New-York, Jan. 4, 1864.

DIVIDEND.—THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS have this day declared a Semi-Annual Dividend of Six (6) Per Cent. and the Government tax, payable on the 9th inst.

T. F. JEREMIAH, Secretary.

Clinton Fire Ins. Co., No. 63 Wall-st., New-York, Jan. 4, 1864.

DIVIDEND.—THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS have this day declared a Semi-annual Dividend of Six per Cent., payable on demand, free of Government tax.

JAMES B. AMES, Jr., Secretary.

Office of the Long Island Insurance Co., No. 41 Fulton-st., Brooklyn, Jan. 2, 1864.

DIVIDEND.—THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS have THIS DAY declared a semi-annual dividend of EIGHT (8) PER CENT. (free of Government Tax), payable on demand.

WM. W. HENSHAW, Secretary.

AGENCY ÆTNA INSURANCE COMPANY, No. 62 Wall-st., New-York, January 5, 1864.—DIVIDEND.—A quarterly dividend of SIX PER CENT. (free of Government tax) has been declared by the Ætna Insurance Company, of Hartford, New-York stockholders will be paid at this office.

JAS. A. ALEXANDER, Agent.

Office of the Mercantile Fire Insurance Co., No. 166 Broadway, New-York, Dec. 26, 1863.

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS HAVE declared a dividend of Five (5) Per Cent., payable to the stockholders at the office of the Company, on and after Jan. 2 next.

JOHN BAKER, Secretary.

Office Citizens' Fire Insurance Co., No. 97 Wall-st., New-York, Jan. 4, 1864.

DIVIDEND.—A DIVIDEND OF FIFTEEN PER CENT is payable on demand, free of Government tax.

E. A. WALTON, Secretary.

Office of the Nassau Fire Insurance Company of Brooklyn, Jan. 4, 1864.

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THIS Company have declared a Semi-annual Dividend of Eight per Cent, free from Government tax, payable on demand.

A. J. BEERMAN, Sec'y.

Office Empire City Fire Insurance Company, No. 102 Broadway, New-York, Jan. 2, 1864.

TWENTY-FIFTH DIVIDEND.—THE BOARD of Directors have this day declared the usual semi-annual dividend of SEVEN per cent., payable on demand, free of Government tax.

WM. A BURTIS, Jr., Secretary.

Office of the Hope Fire Insurance Company, No. 92 Broadway, New-York, Jan. 5, 1864.

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS HAVE this day declared a Semi-annual Dividend of Five (5) per Cent., free of Government tax, payable on demand.

THOMAS GREENLEAF, Secretary.

Williamsburgh City Fire Insurance Company, Brooklyn, Jan. 8, 1864.

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS HAVE this day declared a Semi-annual Dividend of FIVE per cent., payable on demand.

H. GIROUX, Sec'y.

BUSINESS CHANCES.

FOR SALE.—THE STOCK AND FIXTURES OF a hardware and housefurnishing store, in one of the best locations in the City of Brooklyn; it has been carried on by the present owner for the last ten years; satisfactory reasons given for selling; will exchange for Brooklyn improved real estate. Address Box No. 42 Brooklyn Post-office.

CAPITAL—SPECIAL OR ACTIVE—$50,000 TO $75,000 additional capital in a wholesale provision house; business strictly cash. Address CAPITAL, Box No. 2,120 Post-office.

FOR SALE—A LARGE BUTTER AND CHEESE stand, in one of the City markets. For particulars apply, after 2 P. M., at No. 25 Myrtle-av., Brooklyn.

SAVINGS BANKS.

IRVING SAVINGS INSTITUTION, NO. 96 WARREN-ST.

Interest allowed at the rate of 6 per cent. on all sums entitled thereto. Open daily from 10 to 2 P. M., and on Monday, Thursday and Saturday afternoons from 4 to 7 P. M. N. B.—Money to loan on bond and mortgage

Deposits made on or before Jan. 11 will draw interest from Jan. 1.

WALTER W. CONCKLIN, President.
VANDERBILT L. BUXTON, Secretary.

SIX PER CENT. INTEREST.

CITIZENS' SAVINGS BANK, corner of Bowery and Canal-st. Open every day from 9 to 3, and on MONDAY, WEDNESDAY and FRIDAY EVENINGS from 5 to 7. Bank books in English, German and French.

Deposits made on or before Jan. 20, will bear interest from 1st inst.

GEORGE FOLSOM, President.
Seymour A. Bunce, Secretary.

MECHANICS' AND TRADERS' SAVINGS INSTITUTION, NO. 283 BOWERY.

Open daily, from 10 A. M. to 7 P. M. Six per cent. interest allowed on sums of $1,000 and under; five per cent. on larger sums. Deposits made on or before Jan. 20 will draw interest from Jan. 1. CHAS. PEOR.

Henry C Fisher, Secretary. President.

THE ATLANTIC SAVINGS BANK, Chatham-square, N. Y., Jan. 7, 1864.

Notice is hereby given that on and after MONDAY, Jan. 11, 1864, this Bank will be open daily from 9 A. M. to 3 P. M., and on MONDAY, WEDNESDAY and SATURDAY from 5 to 7 P. M. By order

M. D. VAN PELT, President.

J. P. Cooper, Secretary.

ATLANTIC SAVINGS BANK, No. 177 Chatham-square, New-York.

SIX PER CENT. INTEREST ALLOWED.

Money deposited on or before Jan. 30 will draw interest from Jan. 1.

Bank open daily from 9 A. M. to 3 P. M., and Monday, Wednesday and Saturday from 5 to 7 P. M.

M. D. VAN PELT, President.
CHARLES D. BAILEY, Treasurer.

J. P. Cooper, Secretary.

EAST RIVER SAVINGS BANK, No. 3 Chambers-st. New-York, Dec. 24, 1863.

Dividend—The usual Semi-annual Dividend, at the rate of six per cent. per annum, on all sums from $1 to $500, and five per cent. on h sums over $500, will be payable on and after the 19t of January, 1864.

Bank open daily from 10 A. M. to 3 P. M., and on Thursday evening from 5 to 7 o'clock.

WM. H. SLOCUM, President.

CHAS. A. WHITNEY, Secretary.

IRVING SAVINGS INSTITUTION, NO. 96 WARREN-ST.—The Trustees of this Institution have directed that interest at the rate of Six (6) per Cent. per annum be paid to all depositors entitled thereto, payable on and after MONDAY, the 18th of January. All interest not withdrawn will draw interest the same as principal.

WALTER W. CONCKLIN, President.
Vanderbilt L. Buxton, Secretary.

THIRD-AVENUE SAVINGS BANK—CORNER THIRD-AVENUE and 25th-st. CHARTERED 1854. SIX PER CENT. interest allowed. All deposits made on or before Jan. 10, will draw interest from the 1st.

SPENCER K. GREEN, Pres't.

Richard Kelly, Secretary.

AUCTION SALES.

Dan'l. H. Burdett, Auctioneer.

U. S. MARSHAL'S SALE.

BY BURDETT, JONES, & CO.

By virtue of a writ of venditioni exponas to me directed and delivered, I will sell at public auction, on the 16th day of January, 1864, at 11 o'clock, A. M., at the Union Stores, Brooklyn, the cargo of the prize schooner J. H. TOONE, consisting of Coffee, Cigarettes and Printing paper.

R. MURRAY, U. S. Marshal.

By Burdett, Jones & Co.

UNITED STATES MARSHAL'S SALE.

D. H. BURDETT, Auctioneer.

By virtue of a writ of Venditioni Exponas to me directed and delivered, I will sell at public auction, on the 15th day of January, 1864, at 12 o'clock M., on board thereof, the prize-steamer PATRAS, her tackle, apparel, furniture, engines, &c. The above vessel is now lying at the Union Stores, Brooklyn.

R. MURRAY, United States Marshal.

UNITED STATES MILITARY RAILROAD OFFICE, No. 260 G-st., Washington, D. C., Dec. 19, 1863.

LOCOMOTIVE ENGINES AND RAILROAD IRON FOR SALE.

I will sell at public auction, at the Orange and Alexandria Railroad Depot, in Alexandria, Va., on WEDNESDAY, the 13th day of January next:

Ten second-hand Locomotive Engines, 4 feet 8½ inches gauge.
About 1,000 tons of old Rails, T and U pattern.
About 300 tons of old Car Wheels.
About 200 tons of old Car Axles.
About 200 tons of old Wrought Scrap Iron.
About 200 tons of old Cast Iron.
A lot of Steel Springs, Sheet Iron, &c.
Sale to commence at 10 A. M.
Terms cash, in Government funds.

H. L. ROBINSON, Captain and A. Q. M.

Henry D. Miner, Auctioneer.

Salesroom No. 37 Nassau-st., opposite the Post-office.

MINER & SOMERVILLE WILL SELL at their Salesroom, No. 37 Nassau-st., on SATURDAY, Jan. 9, at 10½ o'clock, household furniture, paintings, &c., comprising in part Axminster, Medallion, Brussels and ingrain carpets, suites in crimson, mahogany easy and parlor chairs, mahogany marble-top centre table, corner stands, bedsteads and bedding, gilt-frame pier-glasses, mahogany suite in hair cloth, lounges, also a collection of modern oil paintings, embracing landscapes, marines, Winter scenes, still life, fruit and flowers, &c., &c.

SHERIFF'S SALE.—BY VIRTUE OF EXECUTIONS, I will sell at public auction on board the dredging machine *Leviathan*, now moored opposite the Long Dock, foot of Pavonia-avenue, Jersey City, on MONDAY, the 11th day of January, instant, at 12 o'clock noon of that day, the great rotary dredge, (Fonde & Lyon patent,) *Leviathan*, and the steam engines and machinery thereunto belonging. She is 105 feet long, 34 feet breadth of beam and 11 feet depth of hold; diameter of dredge-wheel 50 feet; contains two oscillating engines 21 inches by 4 feet stroke and two small oscillating engines 12 inches by 18 inches stroke; also, one single return flue boiler 20 feet long by 7 feet 6 inches in diameter; steam chimney 4 feet 9 inches in diameter by 6 feet high; two furnaces 6 feet by 3 feet 2 inches wide. Complete weight of the machine 184,568 pounds. It is said to be capable of excavating 300 cubic yards per hour.

Also, will be sold at the same time and place two scows lying alongside of the dredging machine.

JAMES LYNCH, Sheriff.

Marsh, Cox & Wallis, Attorneys, No. 170 Broadway.

COPARTNERSHIP NOTICES.

New-York, Jan. 1, 1864.

IN ADDITION TO OUR ESTABLISHment in Liverpool, (BROWN, SHIPLEY & CO.,) we have opened a house in London under the same firm. The business will be conducted in both places in connection, as hitherto, with our houses in Boston, Philadelphia, Baltimore and this City.

BROWN BROTHERS & CO.

THE COPARTNERSHIP HERETOfore existing between the undersigned, and known as W. H. WALKER & CO., was dissolved by its limitation on the 31st ult. All claims against the above firm must be presented for liquidation on or before the 15th inst.

W. H. WALKER.
ANDREW HARMAN.
W. H. KNIFFIN.

New-York, Jan. 7, 1864.

THE FIRM OF J. B. HERRICK & SON is this day dissolved by the death of Mr. J. B. HERRICK.

The undersigned, as surviving partner, will close the outstanding affairs of the firm, and continue the business on his own account at No. 10 South-st.

JACOB HOBART HERRICK.

New-York, Jan. 2, 1864.

S. M. WALLER THIS DAY ASSOCIATES with himself THEO. EMERY and HENRY IVEY, and will continue the business as heretofore, under the firm of S. M. WALLER & CO.

New-York, Jan. 1, 1864.

New-York, Jan. 1, 1864.

MR. WM. H. PRIPPS IS A PARTNER in our firm from this date.

DREXEL, WINTHROP & CO., No. 40 Wall-st.

No. 54 Wall-st., New-York, Jan. 1, 1864.

JOHN CAMPBELL IS THIS DAY ADMITted a member of our firm.

FEARING & DALTON.

MR. IRVING GRINNELL RETIRES from our firm this day.

GRINNELL, MINTURN & CO.

December 31, 1863.

New-York, Jan. 1, 1864.

MR. JOHN CROSBY BROWN IS THIS day admitted a partner in our several firms.

BROWN BROTHERS & CO.

BOARDING AND LODGING.

BOARD WANTED.—A YOUNG MAN OF QUIET habits wants permanent board with some cheerful, refined, private, Republican family. Address M. B., Box No. 3,730 New-York Post-office, stating particulars. Boarding-house keepers need not apply.

ROOMS TO RENT, WITHOUT BOARD—HANDsome, furnished rooms, on the second floor of the house No. 71 West 11th-st., three doors west of 5th-av., to gentlemen only.

BOARDING.—THREE DESIRABLE ROOMS CAN be obtained, with board, in one of the best localities in the City. A liberal compensation required. Apply at No. 210 Madison-av.

AN UNUSUALLY DESIRABLE SUITE of rooms, with southern exposure, can be seen at No. 7 West 28th-st. Private table.

HORSES AND CARRIAGES.

FOR SALE.—BRIGHT BAY HORSE FROM THE country, seven years old, 15¾ hands high, long tail, sound and kind, well broke to double or single harness, good traveler, and cannot be surpassed for style or action. He is a splendid saddle-horse, and would make a good horse for an officer in the army; he is not afraid of anything and is very fond of music. Also, a very beautiful Long Island Black Hawk colt, four years old next Spring, about 15 hands high, well broke to double or single harness, and out of a thoroughbred Hamiltonian mare, very fast traveler. The colt is a very free and stylish driver, and has every mark of making something very fast with little training. Both can be seen at B. REDFIELD'S grocery store, (until sold,) corner Court and Degraw sts., Brooklyn, N. Y.

FOR SALE—A HANDSOME, STYLISH COUPE, nearly new. Apply at the carriage establishment of WOOD BROTHERS, Broadway, just above the Metropolitan Hotel.

PROPOSALS.

PROPOSALS FOR ICE.

Medical Purveyor's Office, Washington, D. C., January, 1864.

Sealed Proposals will be received at this office until WEDNESDAY, the 10th day of February, 1864, at 12 M., for furnishing the Hospitals within the following Departments, until the 1st day of January, 1865, with a supply of pure ICE, viz.:

Department of the East, Headquarters at New-York.
Department of the Susquehanna, Headquarters at Philadelphia.
Middle Department, Headquarters at Baltimore.
Department of Western Virginia, Headquarters at Cumberland.
Department of Washington, Headquarters at Washington.
Department of St. Mary's, Headquarters at Point Lookout.
Department of Virginia and North Carolina, Headquarters at Fort Monroe.
Department of the South, Headquarters at Hilton Head.
And such other Hospitals as may be established upon the Texas coast.

Proposals will be made according to the following form:

PROPOSALS FOR ICE.
(RESIDENCE AND DATE.)

The undersigned proposes to furnish daily, or otherwise, (as determined by the Medical Director,) the best quality of ice to such hospitals in the Department of ——, and in such quantities as the Medical Director of this Department may order, at the following price per hundred pounds, namely:

The ice to be subject to the approval of the Surgeon in charge of each hospital, who will receipt for the correct amount delivered.

Payment to be made on duplicate bills, certified to by the Medical Director of this Department.

As a guaranty of the faithful performance of the above agreement, should the contract be awarded to me, I will enter into bonds in the sum of $5,000. I also append to the inclosed form of guaranty the names of guarantors, certified by the Clerk of the nearest District Court, or the United States District Attorney.

FORM OF GUARANTY.

We, ——, of the county of ——, and State of ——, and —— of the county of ——, and State of ——, do hereby guarantee that —— is able to fulfill the contract in accordance with the terms of his proposition, and, that should his proposition be accepted he will at once enter into contract in accordance with the terms of said proposition, and we are prepared to become his securities.

[Sig.]
[Sig.]

Certificate of the Clerk of —— District Court, or United States District Attorney.

Bidders must conform strictly to the above form of proposal, or their bids will be rejected.

An oath of allegiance to the United States Government must necessarily accompany the bid.

Bidders may be present in person when the Proposals are opened.

The contract will be awarded to the lowest responsible party or parties, who will be duly notified, by mail or otherwise, that their bid is accepted, and they will immediately proceed to enter into contract, under bonds to the amount of $5,000. Bonds to be properly certified to.

The Post-office address of the parties proposing must be distinctly written upon the Proposal.

Proposals must be addressed to HENRY JOHNSON, M. S. K., U. S. A., and Acting Medical Purveyor, Washington, D. C., and marked, "Proposal for Ice."

The Medical Purveyor reserves to himself the right to reject any or all bids deemed unsuitable.

HENRY JOHNSON,
M. S. K., U. S. A., and Acting Medical Purveyor.

N. B.—Printed forms of above Proposals can be had by application to this office.

Information as to the location, capacity and about the amount of ice required by the hospitals will be given by application to the Medical Director of each of these Departments.

SEALED PROPOSALS WILL BE RECEIVED by the School Officers of the Eighteenth Ward, at the office of the Clerk of the Board of Education, corner of Grand and Elm streets, until WEDNESDAY, the 13th day of January, 1864, at 12 o'clock noon for the erection and completion of a new School-house, including the steam heating apparatus, to be built on the four lots of ground known as Nos. 149, 151, 153 and 155 East Twenty-third-street, in said Ward. Plans and specifications for said School-house, including steam heating apparatus, can be seen at the office of the Superintendent of School Buildings, No. 94 Crosby-street. Proposals must state the estimate for each branch of the work separately, and be indorsed, "Proposals for Mason Work," "Proposals for Carpenter Work," "Proposals for Painting," and "Proposals for Heating." Proposals for the heating must be accompanied with accurate drawings and descriptions of the apparatus intended to be furnished, otherwise they will be rejected. Two responsible and approved sureties will be required from each successful bidder, and no proposal will be considered in which no sureties are named. The School Officers of the Ward reserve the right to reject any or all of the proposals offered, if deemed for the public interest to do so.

EDWARD COOPER,
Chairman Board of School Officers, Eighteenth Ward.
Maurice J. Power, Secretary.
Dated Dec. 29, 1863.

REAL ESTATE.

FOR SALE—A COUNTRY RESIDENCE NINETY miles from the City via Hudson River Railroad, containing some five acres of thoroughly tilled land, upon which there are fruit trees and fruits of all kinds. The house is a large, first-class two-story frame building, with wings on either side; warmed all through with a furnace, has a bathing-room on the second floor; attached is a fine green-house, and in connection a large glass forwarding-house. The entire premises are in perfect order. Price, $15,000. Also, a two-story frame building, basement and attic finished, in perfect order. For particulars inquire at No. 118 West 13th-st.

FOR SALE—AT RYE, WESTCHESTER CO., N. Y.—The following valuable property belonging to the estate of the late Ezra Kniffen, deceased, viz.: The lot of ground with store now occupied by H. W. Wheaton as a grocery and Post-office; also, about two acres of land on which are a large barn, stable and other buildings, all new, and lying adjacent to Rye Station on the N. Y. & N. H. Railroad. Apply to

JAS. D. HALSTED, } Executors.
JONA. SNIFFEN. }

FOR SALE—WITHIN THIRTY MILES FROM the City Hall, New-York, an elegant country seat on the Sound shore, having great advantages for boating, bathing and fishing. The house and outbuildings are nearly new and all in good order. Fruit in abundance of choice varieties. Apply to P. C. BULKLEY, No. 43 W. 11-st., Jauncey court.

FOR SALE.—THE MODERN BUILT, NEAT AND convenient dwelling No. 71 East 27th-st., between 4th and Lexington avs., brown stone, three stories and basement, in good order; house 20 by about 54 feet; lot full depth. Price $11,000, and no abatement.

Can be seen by ticket of admission only.

A. P. MAN, Executor, No. 64 Wall-st.

ORANGE, N. J.—VILLAS, VILLA SITES AND farms, a great variety, beautifully situated, one hour from New-York, for sale low. Also, country seats and houses to let for the season or year, by HENRY B. BLACKWELL, No. 59 William-st., New-York, 9 to 11 A. M.; No. 49 Main-st., Orange, 3 to 5 P. M.

FOR SALE AT WILLIAMSBURGH—THE three-story brick dwelling-house and lot, No. 38 South 9th-st.; also the lot in the immediate rear, on South 10th-st., with frame stable thereon. Location fine and within three minutes' walk of the ferries. Apply to R. BERRY, at the Tradesmen's Bank.

VALUABLE WATER POWER AND LARGE stone buildings, with all necessary gearings, in good order, and within 30 minutes of New-York, for sale or exchange.

Apply to
WARD McLEAN,
Late Field & McLean, No. 19 Wall-st.

HOUSE AND LOT FOR SALE.—LOT 22X98; house four stories, with modern improvements, and in first-rate order; the location is one of the pleasantest in the City. Apply at No. 26 Lamartine-place, from 11 to 3 o'clock. Price, $14,000.

FOR SALE—A NUMBER OF VERY DESIRABLE country-seats and farms, one hour from New-York. Also, cottage house for sale and to let. Apply to R. C. BREWSTER, Real Estate Agent, Rahway, N. J.

FOR SALE.—A FOUR-STORY ENGLISH BASEment house and lot, No. 169 East 19th-st.; it is in good order, and will be sold low, and on accommodating terms. Inquire as above.

SITUATIONS WANTED.

MALES.

AS GARDENER.—SITUATION WANTED AS gardener on the 10th of February next, by a married middle-aged German, without incumbrance, who thoroughly understands his business, laying out grounds, the cultivation of flowers, greenhouses, fruits, ornamental trees and vegetables. Call for a month at No. 51 6th-av., second floor, front room.

WANTED.—A GENTLEMAN (ENGLISH) wishes a situation in some mercantile establishment; active employment preferred; has been accustomed to soliciting, and is a first-rate book-keeper and correspondent. Address W. H., Box No. 145 *Times* Office.

HELP WANTED

A WAITER.—WANTED, A BOY ABOUT 18 years of age, as waiter and house servant in a private family residing in New-Jersey, a short distance from New-York; English, Scotch, German or American preferred; one who is faithful and attentive will find a good and permanent place. Address O. P., Box No. 127 *Times* Office, with name and reference.

WANTED—A SOBER AND INDUSTRIOUS young man, to go into the country—about an hour's ride by railroad from New-York—to take charge of a small farm and drive carriage. Inquire of S. G. WOOD, No. 22 Union-square, between the hours of 9 and 11.

WANTED—A MIDDLE-AGED AMERICAN OR German woman in a small family, to take a general charge of the house; must be a good cook and laundress; liberal wages and permanent situation. Address H. P., Station D, Bible-house.

WANTED—IN A WHOLESALE HARDWARE store, a smart, active boy, 16 to 18 years of age, to learn the business; one who resides with his parents preferred. Address, in handwriting of applicant, Box No. 3,288 New-York Post-office.

A WET-NURSE.—WANTED A WET-NURSE—a competent woman, with good references, may apply to No. 25 Union-square, Monday morning, 11th inst., between 11 and 12 o'clock.

BOY WANTED—16 OR 17 YEARS OF AGE, AS assistant entry clerk in an importing house—one who writes a good hand, and resides with his parents. Address Box No. 3,317 Post-office.

WANTED—AN EXPERIENCED YOUNG MAN as an assistant in our woolen department.

HALSTED, HAINES & CO.

COMMISSIONER FOR NEW-JERSEY and other States—No. 5 Beekman-st., Room No. 4, first floor, over Park Bank.

SHIPPING.

GALWAY LINE.
THE
ATLANTIC IRISH ROYAL MAIL STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY.

ADRIATIC, 1,200 Horse-power, 4,000 Tons.
BIBERNIA, 1,000 Horse-power, 3,000 Tons.
COLUMBIA, 1,000 Horse-power, 3,000 Tons.
ANGLIA, 1,000 Horse-power, 3,000 Tons.

The magnificent side-wheel Steamship
ADRIATIC,
Capt. Nicholson,

will sail from NEW-YORK, for GALWAY and LIVERPOOL, on TUESDAY, Jan. 12, to be followed by the COLUMBIA, from BOSTON, Jan. 26.

Rates of passage, payable in gold or its equivalent in currency: First Cabin, $80; Intermediate, $40; Steerage, $30. New York to St. Johns, $40, $30, $20.

Passengers forwarded also to London, Paris, Hamburg, Havre, Bremen, Rotterdam, Antwerp, &c., at lowest rates.

Fares from Liverpool or Galway to New-York and Boston, $30, $40, $65, $105.

For passage, apply to

SABEL & SEARLE,
No. 23 Broadway.

For rates of freight and specie, and all other information, apply to

LAWRENCE, GILES & CO.,
No. 11 South William-st.

THE BRITISH AND NORTH AMERICAN ROYAL MAIL STEAMSHIPS,

BETWEEN NEW-YORK AND LIVERPOOL, CALLING AT CORK HARBOR.

AND BETWEEN BOSTON AND LIVERPOOL, CALLING AT HALIFAX AND CORK HARBOR.

PERSIA leaves New-York Wednesday, Jan. 13.
AFRICA leaves Boston Wednesday, Jan. 20.
SCOTIA leaves New-York Wednesday, Jan. 27.
CANADA leaves Boston Wednesday, Feb. 3.
AUSTRALASIAN leaves New-York Wednesday, Feb. 10.
ASIA leaves Boston Wednesday, Feb. 17.

FROM NEW-YORK TO LIVERPOOL.

Chief Cabin Passage	$122 50
Second Cabin Passage	80 00

FROM BOSTON TO LIVERPOOL.

Chief Cabin Passage	$112 50
Second Cabin Passage	65 00

payable in gold, or its equivalent in United States currency.

Berths not secured until paid for.

An experienced Surgeon on board.

The owners of these ships will not be accountable for Specie or Valuables, unless bills of lading having the value expressed are signed therefor.

For freight or passage apply to

E. CUNARD, No. 4 Bowling-green.

NATIONAL STEAM NAVIGATION CO.

The undersigned will dispatch one of the undermentioned or other first-class full powered British built steamers from

NEW-YORK TO LIVERPOOL,

calling at Queenstown to land passengers and latest

TELEGRAPHIC DISPATCHES.

Ship.	Tons.	Commander.	To sail.
LOUISIANA	2,879	Brooking.	——
VIRGINIA	2,874	Grace.	——
PENNSYLVANIA	3,000	——	——

These steamers have been all built under the inspection of the Chief Surveyor to the Liverpool Underwriters' Registry of Iron Ships, they have extra water-tight compartments, and classed first-class for 7½ years.

They are fitted up for first, second, and third-class passengers, which are charged at the following rates:

First Cabin	$80	Payable in Currency.
	75	
Steerage	35	

Dietary and accommodation unsurpassed by any other line of steamers.

For further particulars, apply to

WILLIAMS & GUION, No. 71 Wall-st.

STEAM WEEKLY TO LIVERPOOL—Touching at QUEENSTOWN, (Cork Harbor.) The well-known Steamers of the Liverpool, New-York and Philadelphia Steamship Company are intended to sail as follows:

CITY OF BALTIMORE.....Saturday.....Jan. 16
CITY OF LONDON.....Saturday.....Jan. 23
ETNA.....Saturday.....Jan. 30

and every succeeding Saturday, at Noon, from Pier No. 44, North River.

RATES OF PASSAGE.

Payable in Gold, or its equivalent in Currency.

First Cabin	$80 00	Steerage	$30 00
First Cabin to London	85 00	Steerage to London	34 00
First Cabin to Paris	95 00	Steerage to Paris	40 00
First Cabin to Hamburg	90 00	Steerage to Hamburg	37 00

Passengers also forwarded to Havre, Bremen, Rotterdam, Antwerp, &c., at equally low rates.

Fares from Liverpool or Queenstown: First Cabin, $75, $85, $105; Steerage, $30. Those who wish to send for their friends can buy tickets here at these rates.

For further information, apply at the Company's Offices.

JOHN G. DALE, Agent, No. 15 Broadway, New-York.

STEAM TO LONDONDERRY, GLASGOW AND LIVERPOOL.

The Montreal Steamship Company's first-class full-powered Clyde-built steamer

NORTH AMERICAN,
Capt. Burgess,

carrying the Canadian and United States Mails, will sail from Portland next

SATURDAY, Jan 9.

Rates of passage from New-York: First-class, according to accommodations, $87 and $72. Steerage, found with good provisions, $30, payable in gold or its equivalent in United States currency. Certificates issued for bringing out passengers from all the principal towns in Great Britain and Ireland at very low rates. For passage, apply at No. 23 Broadway, New-York.

SABEL & SEARLE, General Agents.

FOR LIVERPOOL—TAPSCOTT'S LINE.

Ship AMERICAN UNION sails Jan 11.
FOR LONDON DIRECT.
Ship DANIEL WEBSTER sails Jan. 11.

For passage 60 or from Liverpool and London, or drafts for any amount available in all parts of England, Ireland, Scotland or Wales at the lowest possible rates, apply to TAPSCOTT BROTHERS & CO., No. 86 South-st., N.Y.

FOR HAVANA DIRECT.

The United States Mail steamship
ROANOKE,
Francis A. Drew, Commander,

will leave Pier No. 13 North River, for Havana direct, on TUESDAY, Jan. 12, 1864, at 3 o'clock P. M. precisely.

No freight received or bills of lading signed on the day of sailing.

For freight or passage, apply to
LUDLAM, HEINEKEN & CO., No. 115 Broadway.

FOR NEW-ORLEANS DIRECT.

The United States Mail steamship
YAZOO,
Geo. W. Couch, Commander,

will leave Pier No. 13, North River, for New-Orleans direct on WEDNESDAY, Jan. 13, 1864, at 3 o'clock, P. M. precisely. No freight received or bills of lading signed on the day of sailing. For freight or passage apply to

LUDLAM, HEINEKEN & CO., No. 115 Broadway.

INSTRUCTION.

THE RIVERDALE INSTITUTE,
A COLLEGIATE SCHOOL FOR YOUNG LADIES,
Fourteen miles from New-York,
At Riverdale, on the Hudson.
Rector, Rev. WM. C. LEVERETT, M. A.
Circulars at Messrs. D. Appleton & Co.'s, No. 443 Broadway, New-York.

MR. GEORGE C. ANTHON'S
CLASSICAL FRENCH AND ENGLISH SCHOOL,
No. 204 5th-av., corner 26th-st. Opens Sept. 9.

THE POUGHKEEPSIE FEMALE COLLEGIATE INSTITUTE will reopen after the Holidays, Jan. 2, 1864. Board and tuition, $210 per year. Send for a catalogue, or come and see. Reference: C. L. Cornish, No. 638 Pearl, or Gen. Tallmadge, No. 49 Vesey-st., N.Y.

Rev. C. D. RICE, Principal.
RICE & COFFIN, Proprietors.

A CLASS OF LADIES AND GENTLEMEN has recently been formed for the study of the French and German languages and conversation under competent Professors. The classes are held at a lady's private residence. Terms, $6 a quarter; private lessons, $10 a quarter. For particulars, inquire in the bookstore No. 257 Broadway, corner of 23d-st., between the hours of 11 and 1, and 2 and 3 only.

STAMFORD, CONN.—MISS TUCKER RECEIVES young ladies to educate, assisted by French and German resident governesses, and by eminent Professors from New-York. Winter term commences on WEDNESDAY, Jan. 6. References—Right Rev. John Williams, D. D., Assist

THE NEW-YORK CANALS.

Annual Report of Canal Auditor Benton.

CONDITION OF THE CANAL FUND.

In the Treasury and invested, belonging to the Canal Fund, on the 30th Sept., 1863		$4,589,303 83
Received during the fiscal year ending on the 30th of September, 1863		6,722,268 45
Total receipts, and available and unavailable balances		$11,311,572 28
Payments during the year, as shown by the tables herewith submitted		4,396,955 07
Leaving a balance on the 30th of September, 1863, of		$6,915,617 21
Of the above balance there was on deposit in Banks, to the credit of the State, on account of the Canal Fund, as follows; to wit:		
In solvent Banks, available	$4,123,084 09	
In broken Banks, unavailable	165,003 80	
Total in Banks		$4,288,089 78
In the custody of the Auditor, securities invested on account of the Canal Fund, viz.:		
Bank Fund Stock	$12,743 15	
General Fund Stocks	525,221 28	
Canal Stocks	165,765 00	
Comptroller's Bonds	2,000,000 00	
School Fund Bond	40,000 00	
Real Estate, &c., Bank of Corning	2,799 00—	2,687,828 43
Champlain Canal Appropriation overdrawn		61,733 71
Total balance September 30, 1863		$6,977,350 92
Receipts during the year:		
From tolls collected on all the canals	$5,028,431 33	
Rent of surplus waters	1,165 00	
Interest on current canal revenues	56,016 50	
Miscellaneous receipts	30,888 53	
Brought forward		$5,116,501 35
Payments during the year:		
To Canal Commissioners, for repairs	$149,347 00	
To Contractors, for repairs	363,993 02	
To Superintendents, for repairs	156,033 60	
To Collectors, for salaries, clerk hire, pay of inspectors, and expenses of collectors' offices	56,774 51	
To Weigh-masters	9,164 07	
For salaries chargeable to annual revenues, refunding tolls, printing, and other miscellaneous payments	45,565 20	770,882 32
Surplus revenues		$4,347,618 83
Payments to Sinking Fund, under § 1, art. 7	$1,700,000 00	
Payments to Sinking Fund, under § 2, art. 7	350,000 00	
Payments to Sinking Fund, under § 3, art. 7	1,116,242 66	
Payments to the Treasury, under § 3, art. 7, to defray the expenses of government	200,000 00	
Payments to Sinking Funds for advances	198,309 68—	3,564,552 34
Remainder appropriated and unappropriated		$783,066 49
Deduct appropriations by act, chapter 310, Laws of 1863		475,000 00
Remainder to be appropriated, &c		$308,066 49

RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES FOR FOUR YEARS.

The following comparative statement for four years is given:

	1860.	1861.
Receipts from tolls, &c	$2,416,588 39	$3,402,628 30
Payments to Superintendents and Contractors of Repairs	378,285 89	367,606 84
Payments by Canal Commissioners for Repairs	231,753 23	224,957 28
Payments to Collectors, Weighmasters and Assistant Collectors	96,889 04	70,456 85
Refunding Tolls, Salaries, &c.	40,048 62	43,765 17
Total expenses	$746,976 78	$706,786 14
Net receipts	1,669,611 61	2,695,842 16
	1862.	1865.
Receipts from tolls, &c	$4,854,989 67	$5,118,501 35
Payments by superintendents, and to repair contractors	428,068 62	510,031 65
Payments by Canal Commissioners for repairs	265,318 16	149,347 00
Payments to collectors and their assistants and weighmasters	66,454 20	65,938 58
Refunding tolls, salaries of officers, &c.	42,537 34	45,565 20
Total expenses	$773,398 82	$770,882 52
Net receipts	4,081,501 35	4,347,618 83

THE CANAL DEBT SINKING FUND.

The balance of the canal debt sinking fund, under section 1, article 7, on hand September 30, 1863, was $2,827,987. The following is a schedule of stocks issued, and when payable, secured by this fund:

Rate of Interest.	When due.	Amount.	Annual Interest.
6 per cent.	1st July, 1864	$400,000 00	$24,000 00
7 per cent.	1st Oct., 1864	1,200,000 00	84,000 00
6 per cent.	1st July, 1865	1,523,724 76	92,022 48
6 per cent.	1st Oct., 1868	1,294,000 00	64,700 00
6 per cent.	1st Jan., 1874	4,000,000 00	200,000 00
		$8,427,724 76	$464,723 48

The balance of the fund under section 3, article 7, at the close of the fiscal year was $1,421,923, and the stocks secured were as follows:

Rate of Interest.	When due.	Amount.	An. Int.
5 per cent.	1st Jan., 1871	$440,000	$22,000
5 per cent.	1st July, 1872	2,250,000	135,000
6 per cent.	1st Jan., 1873	1,000,000	60,000
6 per cent.	1st July, 1873	2,750,000	165,000
5 per cent.	1st Nov., 1873	2,250,000	135,000
5 per cent.	1st Jan., 1874	500,000	25,000
6 per cent.	1st Oct., 1874	2,250,000	135,000
6 per cent.	1st Oct., 1875	500,000	30,000
		$11,940,000	$707,000

The balance of the fund under section 12, article 7, was $35,232, and the stocks secured were:

Rate of Int.	When due.	Amount.	An. Int.
6 per cent.	1st July, 1866	$558,000 00	$33,480 00
6 per cent.	1st July, 1872	800,000 00	48,000 00
6 per cent.	1st Dec. 1877	900,000 00	54,000 00
Total		$2,258,000 00	$135,480 00

Schedule of Canal Stocks issued for Loans under section 10 of article 7, of the Constitution.

Rate of Int.	When due.	Amount.	An. Int.
6 per cent.	1st July, 1855	$50,000 00	$3,000 00
6 per cent.	1st July, 1866	200,000 00	12,000 00
5 per cent.	1st July, 1866	162,585 49	9,629 28
Total		$412,585 49	$24,629 28

RECAPITULATION.

Amount under section 1, article 7	$2,827,987 72
Amount under section 3, article 7	1,421,928 99
Amount under section 12, article 7	358,235 87
Total	$4,606,144 58
Amount charged thereon	1,307,203 48
Balance chargeable to payment of principal	$3,297,941 10

THE CANAL STOCK DEBT.

The following is a recapitulation of the canal stock debt of the State, paying interest on and after Sept. 30, 1863:

	Principal.	An. Interest.
Under article 7, section 1, of the Constitution	$8,427,724 76	$464,723 48
Under article 7, sec. 3 of same	11,940,000 00	707,000 00
Under article 7, sec. 10 of same	442,585 40	24,620 28
Under article 7, sec. 12 of same	2,258,000 00	135,480 00
Total	$23,068,310 25	$1,331,832 73

The principal of the Canal Stock debt of 1846, which was a preference in payment under section 1, article 7, was, at the close of the fiscal year, $8,427,724 76. Four millions of that debt, drawing five per cent. interest quarterly, matures Jan. 1, 1874, leaving $4,427,724 76 of the principal to be paid, as it matures between this time and the 1st of October, 1868, when $1,294,000 falls due. This is the last payment required until January, 1874. By the statement above given of the condition of the Sinking Fund under section 1, article 7, it will be seen there was a balance of this fund on hand of $2,827,987 72. After paying the interest for the current fiscal year, there will remain, applicable to the payment of the principal, $2,363,244 94, which added to the balance of the annual contribution of $1,700,000 on the 1st day of October next, after providing for the interest during the fiscal year commencing on that day, there will remain $3,706,540 76 of this fund to reimburse principal. The amount of stock secured by this fund, which matures in 1864 and 1865, is $3,123,724 76.

CANAL STOCKS PURCHASED, CANCELED OR PAID UP.

There has been purchased $1,307,721 28 of Canal and General Fund stocks, for a premium in the aggregate of $60,731 45—an average on the whole sum of a little over 4 64-100 per cent. $713,300 of the canal stocks purchased have been canceled. In addition to this the Commissioners of the Canal Fund hold $525,221 of General Fund stock, and $69,200 of Canal stock as investment. The Oswego Canal and Albany Basin stocks were negotiated under section 10 of article 7, and cannot now be reimbursed out of the surplus canal revenues, pledged by sections 1, 2 and 3 of article 7, but can at any time be paid out of any "remainders" which may hereafter be received. Including the payment of the $200,000 temporary loan on the 1st of October last, the canal debt has been reduced by purchase, cancelation and payment at maturity $913,300, carrying with it a reduction of $51,148 of annual interest.

SPECIE PAYMENTS OF INTEREST.

The whole amount paid for premium on coin under the act of 1863, excluding the purchases to meet the January payment (1864) chargeable to the Canal Fund, is $33,743 70.

DEFICIENCIES AND DEFERRED PAYMENTS.

The net receipts of canal tolls for each of the fiscal years stated below, after having the expenses of collection, superintendence and ordinary repairs, were as follows:

For the fiscal year ending Sept. 30, 1857	$1,589,015 69
For the fiscal year ending Sept. 30, 1858	992,325 97
For the fiscal year ending Sept. 30, 1859	982,000 67
For the fiscal year ending Sept. 30, 1860	1,669,611 61
Total net receipts for four years	$5,213,953 85

which is $1,586,046 15 less than the four years' required contribution of $1,700,000 a year to the Sinking Fund, under section 1 of article 7, and leaves the tolls indebted to that fund in that sum. The tolls, at some period must supply this deficiency, and it is not material when, if at any time before 1868, unless it should happen that before October, 1868, there should be a failure in the canal revenues to pay the principal of the stock debt of 1846, to the above amount, for which no deficiency loan can be contracted on the credit of the fund which has been unconstitutionally depleted.

The Constitutional Sinking Fund, under section one, is entitled to and should have had set apart to it the full annual contribution of $1,700,000, commencing on the 1st of October, 1856. This has not been done.

The Constitutional General Fund Debt Sinking Fund, under section two, is entitled to and should have had set apart to it the full annual contribution of $350,000, commencing on the 1st day of October, 1847. But this has not been done. The aggregate of these deficiencies now amount to $3,073,549 15, beside the quarterly interest payable to the General Fund.

On the 30th of September last, the balance of the Canal debt of 1846 was $8,427,724 76. Four millions of this debt, carrying five per cent. interest, matures Jan. 1st, 1874, and $4,427,724 73 at different periods between the 30th of June, 1864, and the 1st of October, 1868. Three years' contribution of $1,700,000 a year, will accumulate a sufficient fund to pay the stock debt due in January, 1874, and the interest from October, 1868. If there be no intervening deficiencies, the accumulations of this $1,700,000 fund from the 1st of October, 1863, to October, 1868, will amount to $8,500,000. The balance of this fund in the Treasury on the 1st of October last was $2,827,987 72, subject to the payment of the quarterly interest on the whole debt, and the reimbursement of $1,600,000 of stock due in 1864. The annual interest on this debt is now $464,843 48.

The Auditor shows that in October, 1864, the capital of this fund will be quite adequate to the reimbursement of all the stock that will mature up to the 1st of October, 1868, and suggests that in 1865 the reimbursement to the Treasury, of the $1,487,500 deferred payments, may be commenced during that year and completed in 1866, without interfering with the just rights of the creditors holding the Canal debt, secured by the priorities recognized by the first section of the seventh article.

REPAIRS OF THE CANALS AND THE COST THEREOF.

On the 1st of October, 1863, all the Superintendents' sections on our Canals were under contract for repairs, at an aggregate cost of $308,168 per year, and without being precise in regard to fractions, we have here an annual average cost of repairs of $351 per mile.

CANALS AND RAILROADS.

The receipts of toll on the Erie Canal from the Schenectady to the Lockport offices, inclusive, in 1862, were $633,856 73, and at least fifty per cent. of this amount was paid on Western and Canadian products and tonnage.

The whole amount of tolls received on the Erie Canal on tonnage contributed by the lateral canals, with the entire receipts of the latter, including the Champlain, make an aggregate of $1,045,248 04.

The full amount of tolls for the season of 1862, paid into the treasury, after deducting the tolls refunded by the collectors, was $5,172,021 15

Tolls received at		
Buffalo office	$3,075,784 99	
Tonawanda office	51,327 27	
Oswego office	466,610 76	
Whitehall office	63,021 13	
	3,656,744 15	
Balance collected at other offices on all the canals		$1,415,277 00

From 1853 to 1862 inclusive, a period of ten years, the freight traffic on the New York Central Railroad and now New-York and Erie Railway increased from 991,039 tons carried to 3,010,388, and their freight receipts from $4,376,044 to $13,250,240.

The tonnage traffic on the canals increased from 4,247,833 tons in 1853 to 5,598,788 tons 1862. The tonnage traffic on our two trunk railway lines increased from 991,039 tons in 1853 to 3,010,388 in 1862. Here we find the causes for the losses sustained by the canals plainly illustrated and the fact of diversion palpably demonstrated, for the canal increase of 1,350,932 tons, above noted, is less than the increased tonnage delivered at tide-water from the Western States from and to the years mentioned.

In the year 1862 the New-York Central Railroad carried 610,243 tons of way freight of all descriptions; more than half of this was of the classification on which the highest rates of canal tolls are charged. This was a clear diversion of that amount of tonnage from the canals. The company received on this tonnage transported on its line, and within its eastern and western ends, $1,728,488 56, which is an average of $2 83¼ per ton. In respect to this traffic the railroad company had no competition whatever, except with the canals, seven months in the year.

UNPAID CLAIMS.

The Auditor estimates that the unpaid claims for which no appropriations have been made will amount to $700,000, and there are now in the treasury unappropriated funds to pay off $300,000 of it.

RATES OF CANAL TOLLS.

The rates of toll on the canals in 1862 and 1863 have been alike, except in two or three unimportant particulars. The rates on the great leading staples of agricultural production have been brought to the standard they were in 1857, and left there. The nominal receipts of gross tolls for the navigation season will reach very nearly $4,551,571, which will be an excess of any other year, except 1862.

No material changes in the rates on the down traffic can be made, either by raising or lowering the rates, with any prospect of increasing the revenue or keeping it to the standard of the two past years.

PROSPECTIVE TRAFFIC OF 1864.

The indications of a falling off in the traffic on the canals during the season of 1864, compared with the three preceding years of 1861, 1862 and 1863, are marked, and ominous of a strong and heavy reaction in the toll receipts on the canals. The grain crop of Western Europe of 1863 is up to a full average of former years, supplying surpluses for export in some places. The change of the condition of Northern and Eastern Europe from a state of peace to that of war, in which Western Europe will be involved, may, to some extent, cause a demand, that will, however, find ample supplies at home for the first twelve months, and until the want of producers with us, by the absorption of the armies and the waste of war, shall deprive husbandry of its needful aids to bring out production. We lack the means, by the drainage of war, to work our lands, and Europe has a surplus of them.

On the whole, in view of the short supply of Western production, the increased and increasing demand at the West for consumption, and the decreased demand at the East for exportation, it cannot be expected that the business on the canals in 1864 will be as prosperous and successful as it was during the three or four preceding years.

ESTIMATES FOR THE NEXT FISCAL YEAR.

The tonnage movements on the canals in 1860, 1861 and 1862 were unusually large, but there has been a very considerable falling off in 1863, and especially in shipments from Buffalo to tide-water, which very materially affect the toll receipts on the Erie Canal. In 1862 the receipts from the 1st of September to the close of navigation, amounted to $2,359,476. In 1863, the receipts for the like period were $1,972,682, showing a comparative loss of $396,794. The receipts from the opening of navigation, in 1862, to Sept. 1, were $2,810,467 09, and for the like period, in 1863, $2 872,529, showing a comparative loss of $146,938. These exhibits do not give a favorable omen as to our future revenue prospects.

Receipts of tolls from Sept. 1, 1863, to close of navigation	$1,972,682 00	
Estimated receipts of tolls from the opening of navigation, in the Spring of 1864 to the 1st September, same year	2,170,823 06—	$4,143,505 00
Deduct appropriation for collection, superintendence and ordinary repairs		800,000 00
Total estimated net revenue		43,343,505 00

This sum is charged under the Constitution with the following payments:

Under section 1, article 7, with	$1,700,000 00
Under section 2, article 7, with	350,000 00
Under section 3, article 7, with	710,000 00
Under section 3, article 7, with	406,242 65
Under section 3, article 7, with	200,000 00—$3,365,242 00
Estimated deficiency		$122,737 65

LOCAL INTELLIGENCE.

Naval Movements.

THE CAPTOR OF THE CHESAPEAKE.

The splendid little steamer *Ella and Anna*, which succeeded in capturing the stolen steamer *Chesapeake*, has been ordered to fit out for sea at once. The Navy Department has changed her name to the *Malvern*, and yesterday Capt. CRESSY, one of the most valuable officers in the volunteer navy, received orders to proceed to Boston and command the vessel. Capt. CRESSY will probably leave in a few days, and takes with him the good wishes of everybody here. The *Ella and Anna*, although a purchased steamer, is exceedingly fast and well built. A proper armament is in course of preparation for her by the Ordnance Officer of the Navy-yard, and she will be ready to sail on important cruising business within two weeks. The vacancies in her crew will be filled by first-class men from the receiving ship *Ohio*, and everything done to make her efficient and useful.

PURCHASE OF THE PRIZE-STEAMER BANSHEE.

The prize-steamer *Banshee*, which was captured some time since in endeavoring to run the blockade, by the *Fulton* transport, has been purchased by the Navy Department for a moderate sum, and was yesterday turned over to Rear-Admiral PAULDING, at the Brooklyn Navy-yard. Instructions have been received to convert the vessel into a man-of-war at once, and workmen will be immediately put to work upon her. She is reported to be very fast, and will no doubt make a useful addition to the navy.

IMPORTANT ORDERS.

The following orders have been issued by the Navy Department:—

Detached—Assistant Surgeon Wm. Longshange, Jr., from the *Lehigh* and ordered to the *Minnesota*; Assistant Surgeon W. T. Plant, from the *Housatonic* and ordered to the *Lehigh*; Assistant Surgeon C. H. Burbank, from the Chelsea Naval Hospital, and ordered to the *Housatonic*; Assistant Surgeon A. Matteson, from the *Minnesota* and awaiting orders; Assistant Surgeon Wm. Commons, from the receiving ship *North Carolina* and ordered to the *Hartford*; Assistant Surgeon James Hugg from the *Hartford*, and ordered to the receiving ship *North Carolina*; Assistant Surgeon Samuel D. Flagg from the Naval Laboratory, (sick) and awaiting orders: Assistant Paymaster Casper Schenck from the *Portsmouth*, and ordered North; Assistant Paymaster W. H. Watson from the *Sacramento*, and ordered North; Lieut. Commander R. F. R. Lewis from special duty at Baltimore, and ordered to duty in the South Atlantic Blockading Squadron; Lieut.-Commander A. F. CROSSMAN from special duty at New-York, and ordered to the *Wabash*; Lieutenant Floyd PHOENIX, from the *Wabash*, and ordered North; Acting Ensign A. H. Wright, from the *Ticonderoga*, and ordered to the *Tuscarora*; Ensign B. F. Haskins, from the *Ticonderoga*, and ordered to the *Tuscarora*; Second Assistant Engineer Geo. W. Rogers and H. C. McIlvaine, from the *Ticonderoga*, and ordered to the *Augusta*; Assistant Engineer D. M. Egbert, from the *Owasco*, and ordered to the *Azentney*; Lieut. Edward A. Walker, from the *Maratanza*, and ordered to the *Chippewa*.

Leave of absence has been granted to Assistant Paymaster M. H. Plunkett, returned prisoner of war, for an indefinite period of time.

Resigned—Assistant Surgeon F. Minot Weed.

Ordered—Assistant Surgeon T. Wolverton to the Chelsea Naval Hospital; Assistant Paymaster Edwin Putnam, to the *Portsmouth*; Levi S. Stockwell, to the *Seminole*; Assistant Paymaster J. P. Woodbury, to the *Sacramento*; Ensigns Chas. H. Craven and Chas. W. Tracy, to duty in the South Atlantic Blockading squadron; Second Assistant Engineer Chas. F. Hollingsworth to the *Winona*; Lieut.-Com. Robt. M. Scott, to temporary duty at New-York; Lieut. Chas. E. Hawley, to temporary duty in the New-York Navy-yard.

Revoked—Third Assistant Engineer Chas. C. Davis' appointment to Assistant Engineer corps of the Navy has been revoked, and he has been appointed Acting Third Assistant Engineer; Acting Master's-Mate, Francis G. Fryor; Acting Gunner, Wm. Gordan; Assistant Master's-Mate, Lawton C. Coggshell.

The Police Commissioners.

A FORMAL DEMAND MADE FOR THE BOOKS AND PAPERS OF THE OFFICE.

At about one o'clock, yesterday afternoon, Messrs. ACTON and BOGART, Police Commissioners, were waited upon at headquarters by the gentlemen lately named by Gov. SEYMOUR as Police Commissioners, who handed to them a formal demand for the books and papers of their office, of which demand the following is a copy. Judge BOSWORTH, Messrs. MCMURRAY and LEWIS were present. Mr. MCMURRAY handed the document to Mr. ACTON:

HEADQUARTERS OF THE BOARD OF METROPOLITAN POLICE OF THE METROPOLITAN POLICE DISTRICT OF THE STATE OF NEW-YORK, No. 61 WILLIAM-STREET, IN THE CITY OF NEW-YORK:

NEW-YORK, JAN. 9, 1864.

GENTLEMEN,—A demand is hereby made upon you for the delivery over to the Board of Metropolitan Police for the Metropolitan Police District of the State of New-York, and to the undersigned as present Commissioners of Metropolitan Police, of all books and papers in your custody, or that of any of you as former Commissioners of the Metropolitan Police, or as the former Board of Metropolitan Police of the Metropolitan Police District of the State of New-York, or in any way appertaining to those offices, or either of them.

By order of the Board,
WM. MCMURRAY, President.

J. S. BOSWORTH,
WM. MCMURRAY,
WM. B. LEWIS. } Commissioners.

To Messrs. JAMES BOWEN, THOS. C. ACTON, and JOHN G. BERGEN, former Commissioners of the Metropolitan Police, and the former Board of Metropolitan Police for the Metropolitan Police District of the State of New-York.

On perusing the document, Mr. ACTON politely remarked: "We most respectfully decline to accede to your demands." The gentlemen referred to handed a copy of the resolutions recently passed by them, wherein they resolve to abide the decision of the Courts, to the Commissioners, and took their leave. The interview was courteous and friendly throughout.

Gov. SEYMOUR'S Commissioners have also sent a notification to Comptroller BRENNAN that they are the real Commissioners, and that Mr. LEWIS is Treasurer. Comptroller BRENNAN, it is understood, proposes to adopt the same amicable and commendable course which has been adopted by Messrs. MCMURRAY, BOSWORTH and LEWIS and not to embarrass the department or complicate the legal questions arising; during the pendency of the legal proceedings, and until a decision adverse to them, it is said, he will recognize the present Commissioners and pay to them the warrants as usual.

Another Daring Burglary.

NO ARREST OF THE PERPETRATORS.

On Thursday night last the house of RACHEL NEWFELT, No. 69 Watts-street, was entered by means of false keys and robbed of $200 in cash, $1,000 in United States five-twenty bonds, a gold watch and chain worth $200, a bank-book showing a deposit of $100 in the Chambers-street Savings BANK, and a gold ring valued at $50. From all the indications, it appears there were three thieves engaged in this bold burglary. About 2 o'clock at night they drove up to the above residence, coolly fastened their horse to a post, went through an alley to the rear of the house, and entered the basement by means of keys prepared for the purpose. Thence they ascended to the sleeping apartments of Mrs. NEWFELT, and during her slumbers they abstracted the property above specified, all of which was contained in a small safe. The latter was placed in their wagon and taken away. Two or three blocks from the scene of the robbery, the horse and wagon were found a few hours after by the Police. No arrests of the thieves have yet been made. Capt. JOURDON, of the Sixth Precinct, with two or three men, is, however, actively engaged in working up the case, and it is believed that the villains will soon be brought to justice. Mr. NEWFELT, the husband of the victim, is connected with the army, and the most of the property stolen has been saved by him within the last two years.

Sentence Day.

COURT OF GENERAL SESSIONS.

Before Recorder Hoffman.

MARK BARNWELL, who was convicted at the last term of grand larceny, was brought up for sentence. His Honor said he did it with regret, as the prisoner's character was excellent, and there were grave doubts of his guilt. The law, however, compelled the Court to pass sentence, and the sentence was that he must be confined in the State Prison for two years. Steps will be taken to obtain a new trial for this man, as he is undoubtedly innocent.

JOHN SULLIVAN, who plead guilty to manslaughter in the fourth degree, was sent to the Penitentiary for six months.

JULIA CASEY, convicted of passing counterfeit money, sent to Penitentiary for nine months.

DELIA MURRAY, convicted of petit larceny, sent to Penitentiary for six months.

JOAN O'NEIL and GEORGE FOWLER, convicted of passing counterfeit money, were sentenced to the Penitentiary for four months.

SARAH FITZGERALD plead guilty to an indictment for grand larceny, and was sent to the State Prison for two years.

Court adjourned until Monday morning at 11 o'clock.

The China Trade.

We have had frequent occasion, recently, for noticing the immense trade growing up in this City for supplying the Chinese waters with steamers for carrying on the local trade there. Many of our largest builders have been devoting almost their entire strength to this department. Until recently, however, we were unaware of the difficulties attendant upon getting these vessels to their destination, arising mainly from the fact that most of them are built for river navigation, and not for the long sea voyage they are compelled to take. The following extract is from a letter written by an officer on board the steamer *Vulcan*, and it shows some of the dangers she encountered since she left here in November last. The *Vulcan* was built for Messrs. ATMAR & Co. of this City, by JOHN ENGLIS & SON, the well-known shipbuilders, and her machinery constructed by Mr. JOHN DILLON, of Rondout, New-York:

ON BOARD STEAMER VULCAN,
ST. THOMAS, December 9, 1863.

* * * * * * *

After landing our pilot at twelve o'clock, M., off Sandy Hook, she was headed on her course with a a light free wind, making about nine knots an hour easily. This continued until the third day out, when we encountered heavy winds. That night, while running before the wind in the Gulf Stream, she took one lurch, throwing MARINUS (assistant engineer) from the engine-room gratings into the lee scupper, (the top of the rail being under water,) landing him head first against an eye bolt, rendering him unfit for duty for three days. It was a narrow escape, and if he had not been made of India-rubber, he would never have seen daylight again. We have lost one sailor overboard, and have one fireman on the sick list. The engines and boiler work splendidly; we have not had a warm journal since we left. In fact, I cannot say too much in praise of the engines, and do not believe a better pair were ever built. I have not seen the slightest steam leak since we left New-York, although we have had some "ground and lofty tumbling." The boat is as stout as a ship could be, and a splendid sea boat in good weather. Capt. B. and myself pass coal, stow provisions, make sail, &c., and let the engines take care of themselves; but they keep steadily turning, and work like clocks, whether the boat is upside down or not. When within 1,200 miles of St. Vincent the Captain concluded we had not coal enough to make that port against a head wind, so he headed her for St. Thomas, 1,300 miles distant before the wind, so we have been steaming it for eight days on a back track for a coal-yard. We have burned 80 tons of coal in 16 days steaming, carrying 12 pounds of steam and cutting off at five-eighs of the stroke. After running over 3,000 miles, we are only 1,200 from New-York. At this rate we shall get to Shanghai in about a year. The thermometer ranges at 102° below decks; but I expect it will reach 212° at the equator.

THE JEWISH MESSENGER.—The first number of volume 15 of the *Jewish Messenger*, Jan. 8, comes to us in an enlarged form—an indication of well-deserved success. It is a journal devoted to the interests of our Hebrew population, and is to them, as its motto indicates, "A messenger of good tidings, publishing salvation." It is ably edited, and with a liberality of sentiment and absence of sectarianism which commends it to the respect and approval of those of all religious faiths. In its general and literary departments is exhibited much ability and a cultivated taste.

GENERAL CITY NEWS.

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE WOMEN'S HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting of this Association was held at the Hospital, No. 83 Madison avenue, yesterday afternoon. A large audience was present, composed of many of our most wealthy and influential citizens. In the absence of the President of the Medical Board, Mr. BEERMAN, President of the Board of Directors, was called to the Chair. The annual report was read, which showed a favorable condition of affairs—liberal donations having been received during the year. Addresses were delivered by Rev. Mr. BARNUM, Dr. COXE and others. The following officers were elected for the ensuing year: Mrs. David Codwise, First Directress; Mrs. Wm. B. Astor, Second Directress; Mrs. Morris Ketchum, Third Directress; Mrs. Jacob Le Roy, Treasurer; Mrs. T. C. Doremus, Assistant Treasurer; Mrs. Walden Pell, Secretary; Mrs. James McKay, Corresponding Secretary. Board of Managers—Mrs. Wm. H. Aspinwall, Mrs. H. J. Baker, Mrs. G. Bancroft, Mrs. James W. Beekman, Mrs. C. G. Benedict, Mrs. G. L. Beekman, Mrs. James Brooks, Mrs. Peter Cooper, Mrs. Thomas Dewitt, Mrs. T. C. Durant, Mrs. Horace Green, Mrs. George W. Hatch, Mrs. G. G. Howland, Mrs. Ogden Hoffman, Mrs. R. L. Kennedy, Mrs. Joseph Lawrence, Mrs. Jas. X. McLanahan, Mrs. Thomas Mason, Mrs. J. C. Miner, Mrs. L. P. Morton, Mrs. Elisha Peck, Mrs. Pickersgill, Mrs. A. H. Stevens, Mrs. Horace Webster, Mrs. E. D. Morgan, Mrs. Humphrey, Mrs. Barclay. Executive Committee—Mrs. McLanahan, Mrs. R. L. Kennedy, Mrs. Horace Webster, Mrs. B. C. Benedict, Mrs. Elisha Peck, Mrs. W. Bancroft, Mrs. H. Green, Mrs. T. C. Doremus. Medical Board: Consulting Physicians—John T. Metcalfe, M. D., President: Ed. Delafield, M. D., No. 2 East Seventeenth-street; Horace Green, M. D., LL.D., No. 12 Olinton-place. Consulting Surgeons—J. Marion Sims, M. D., No. 79 Madison-avenue; Valentine Mott, M. D., LL.D., No. 1 Gramercy-place; Alex. H. Stevens, M. D., LL.D., No. 6 Lafayette-place; Peter Van Buren, M. D., No. 142 West Twenty-second-street; George A. Peters, M. D., No. 20 West Twenty-ninth-street. Surgeon—Thomas Addis Emmett, M. D., No. 79 Madison-avenue. Attending Physicians—Dr. T. G. Thomas, No. 86 Fifth-avenue; Dr. Foster Swift, No. 54 West Twenty-fifth-street. House Physician—G. S. Winston, M. D.

THEFT AND ATTEMPT TO KILL.—On Thursday afternoon two men, and a lad aged 15 years, by the name of JOHN BURKE, entered a gentlemen's furnishing store at No. 64 Bowery, for the purpose, as they alleged, of purchasing some articles of wearing apparel. Not more than five minutes had elapsed after they entered, before the proprietor, suspecting that all was not right, turned to get an article from the shelf, keeping his eye upon them as well as he could, and before he could reassume his position a shirt was snatched from the counter by the lad. The proprietor immediately placed himself between the intruders and the door, and demanded that the stolen shirt should be forthcoming. After several denials and some hesitation, the lad produced the shirt, when the proprietor attempted to grab the whole party, and succeeded in retaining two of them. Being alone in the store, he was compelled to get into the street for assistance, and, discovering one of his neighbors in the door of his store, motioned for aid. But before assistance came the larger one disengaged himself and escaped. The lad, finding himself in a tight place, drew a pistol and attempted to fire upon his captor. The pistol was wrenched from his hands by the assistance of the neighbor alluded to, who noticed the movement just in time to prevent its result. All this transpired in the space of three minutes. After safety had been insured for all except the lad, a policeman arrived, and took the young would-be-murderer into custody. Charges of theft and attempt to kill were preferred against the lad yesterday. It is no unusual thing, it is stated, for these petty thieves to be found in the Bowery stores. Two persons are now in custody for breaking into this store but a short time since, being caught in the act by the night watchman and one of the policemen.

THE SLEIGHING CARNIVAL.—New-York has had a sleighing carnival, and is yet in the midst of it. No better sleighing has it known for years, and the prospect of its continuance for a few days is good. Every conceivable character of sleigh, from the scrub-runner to the costliest turnout, has been in use, and the City is resonant with the music of the bells. Central Park was yesterday alive with turnouts, as were all the roads, and a heyday and high-day was being kept by all who were fortunate enough to possess or lucky enough to secure runners. New-York does everything with a rush, and if there be a doubt of it, a visit to the Park, so far as sleighing is concerned, will dispel it.

THE RE-ENLISTED SOLDIERS.—All the re-enlisted veterans that have returned to this City have been credited to the City's quota, and will be paid their $300 bounty in a few days. Supervisor BLUNT states that he will not pay one cent to anybody but the soldier in person, so speculators who live by robbing the soldiers have now but a sorry chance of turning a penny.

BALL OF ENGINE COMPANY NO. 7.—Lexington Steam Fire Engine Company No. 7 give a ball at Irving Hall to-morrow evening. The gallant members of No. 7 have made every arrangement to insure a success and enjoyment to all attending. The gentlemen composing the several Committees know no such word as "fail."

APPOINTMENT OF A DETECTIVE AT THE SUB-TREASURY.—THOMAS SAMPSON, for many years a member of the Detective Police force of this City, has been appointed United States Detective at the Sub-Treasury Office, under JOHN J. CISCO. Mr. SAMPSON is an experienced and efficient officer, and the appointment is a deserved tribute to his worth.

RETURN OF THE FIFTY-NINTH REGIMENT.—The Fifty-ninth regiment, Lieut.-Col. RUGG, commanding, were to leave Washington yesterday morning. Hence they may be expected here at any hour. Preparations have been made to receive them, but the programme of the proceedings has not yet been made public.

THE ELLA AND ANNA.—This prize steamer, which was so suddenly made conspicuous by recapturing the *Chesapeake* from the pirates, has been ordered to fit for sea immediately. Capt. CRESSY has been assigned to the command of the vessel, and her name has been changed to *Malvern*.

ARRIVAL OF THE SECOND MASSACHUSETTS BATTERY.—The Second Massachusetts heavy artillery, 725 strong, arrived here yesterday morning, and after partaking of a substantial dinner prepared by Col. F. E. HOWE, departed for Baltimore.

NEW-ENGLAND SOLDIERS' RELIEF ASSOCIATION.—Rev. THOMAS S. HASTINGS will preach at the rooms of the New-England Soldiers' Relief Association, No. 194 Broadway, this morning, at 3 P. M. The public are invited to attend.

ICE ON THE NORTH RIVER.—Yesterday a large amount of ice floated down the North River considerably endangering small craft and impeding navigation generally.

BROOKLYN NEWS.

GRAND SKATING CARNIVAL ON WASHINGTON POND.—There will be a grand fancy-dress skating carnival on the Washington Pond on Monday afternoon and evening. Two bands of music will be in attendance, and in the evening the pond will be lighted up, and fireworks displayed. The affair will be vigorously exciting and highly enjoyable.

LAW REPORTS.

Collision—Steamer and Sailing Vessel—Darkness—Evidence.

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT.

Before Judge Shipman.

Thomas D. Fletcher vs. *The Steamer Cubana.*—This libel is filed to recover damages alleged to have been inflicted on the schooner *Minerva*, at sea, on the morning of June 19, 1860, in a collision with the Spanish steamer *Cubana*. The schooner is an English vessel, belonging to Nova Scotia. The accident occured about 4 or 4½ o'clock in the morning, in lat. 25° 48' N. lon. 62° 18' W.

The schooner was under a very light breeze, and was making but little headway at the time. It was the duty of the steamer to have cleared her, and she is liable for the damages caused by the collision, unless the schooner was in fault. The only serious fault which can be charged upon her is that charged in the pleadings and evidence of the omission to show a light. The question of her duty on this point turns upon the fact whether or not it was dark at the time. The libelant's witnesses insist that it was not, while these on behalf of the steamer assert the contrary. Two witnesses from this City have been called, who swear that they are acquainted with the navigation of the ocean in the vicinity of the place of this collision, and they state, that at that season of the year it must have been broad daylight at the time when the vessels collided. The Court has had some hesitation in accepting this statement, as it is in conflict with the commonly received opinion of geographers and navigators touching the length of time which dawn precedes the morning and twilight follows the setting sun. But as the testimony is positive, and the witnesses say they have personally witnessed the state of the atmosphere in that region and at that season of the year and time of day, the Court must accept their testimony as confirming that of those on board the schooner. The mate of the *Cubana* also says that he saw something on his lee-bow, a short time previous to the collision, his attention having been attracted to it